BEAM COMIX

ソイル

SOIL

ソイル

カネコアツシ

11

カネコアツシ

11

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SOIL 11 KANEKO ATSUSHI

SOIL ソイル

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Cast of Characters

Onoda ····· Kamikawa police station detective.

Yokoi ····· Sergeant of Onoda's police station as well as her superior.
Taken into custody but currently on the run.

Katakuri ····· Soil New Town police officer.

Ichinose ····· Katakuri's co-worker. **DISAPPEARED.**

Suzushiro Masaki ····· Head of a family living in Soil New Town. **DISAPPEARED.**

Suzushiro Noriko ····· Wife of above. **DISAPPEARED.**

Suzushiro Mizuki ····· Their lone daughter.
Soil Middle School 2nd year student. **DISAPPEARED.**

Miyahara Kento ····· Teenager son living with single mother.
Soil Middle School 2nd year student.

Kataoka Misa ····· Victim of gangrape.
Soil Middle School 2nd year student.

Sanada ····· Boy nicknamed "Tapeworm."
Soil Middle School 2nd year student.

Tomiyama ····· Soil Middle School 2nd year student.

Seki ····· Soil Middle School 2nd year student.

Tokita ····· Soil Middle School substitute science teacher.

Kosaka ····· Soil Middle School counselor.

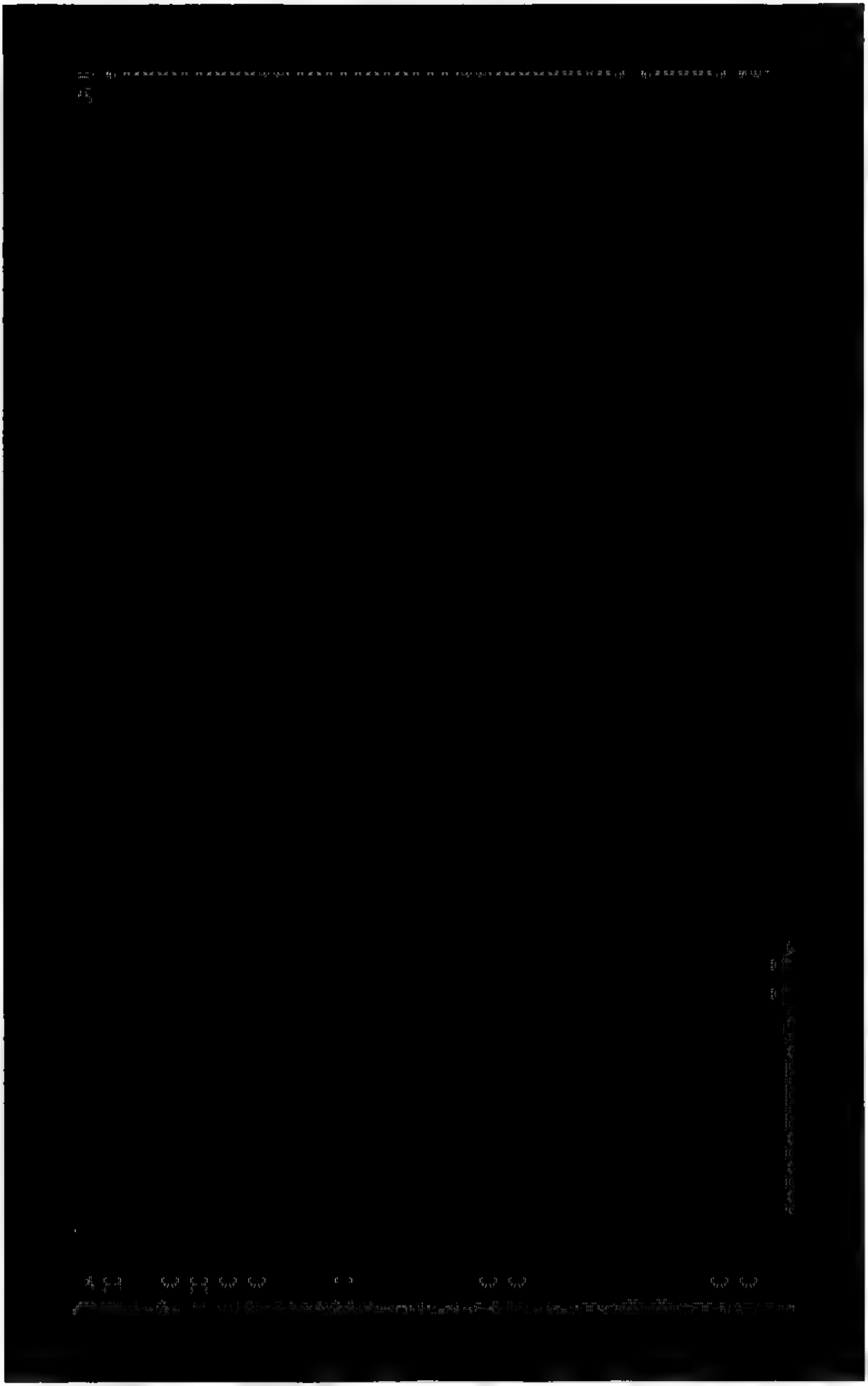
Kosaka Youhei ····· Kosaka's lone son.

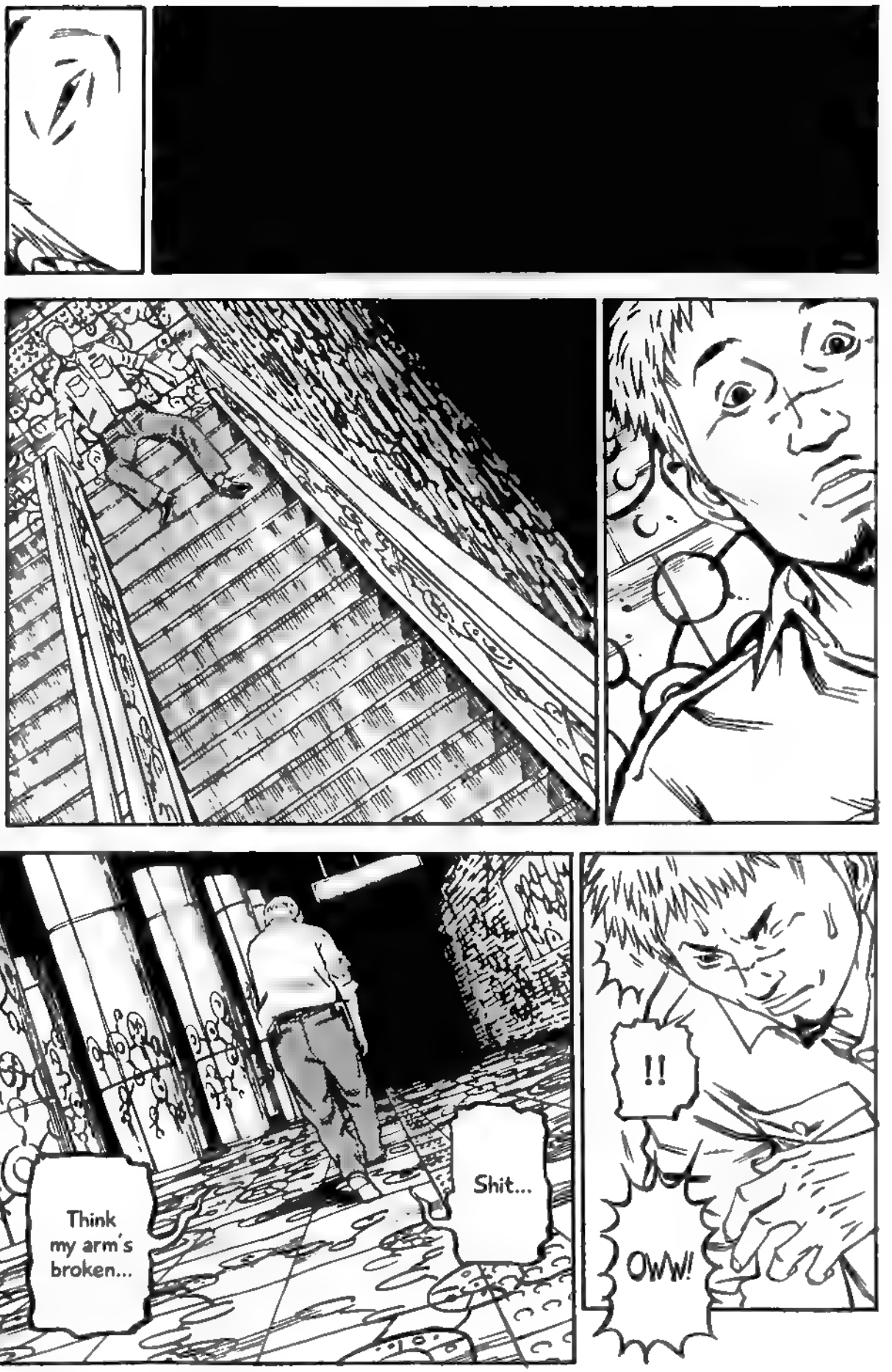
"Sacchin" ····· Daughter of Kosaka's neighbour. **MURDERED BY KOSAKA.**

"Council President" ····· Town Council President of Soil New Town.
MURDERED BY KENTO'S MOTHER.

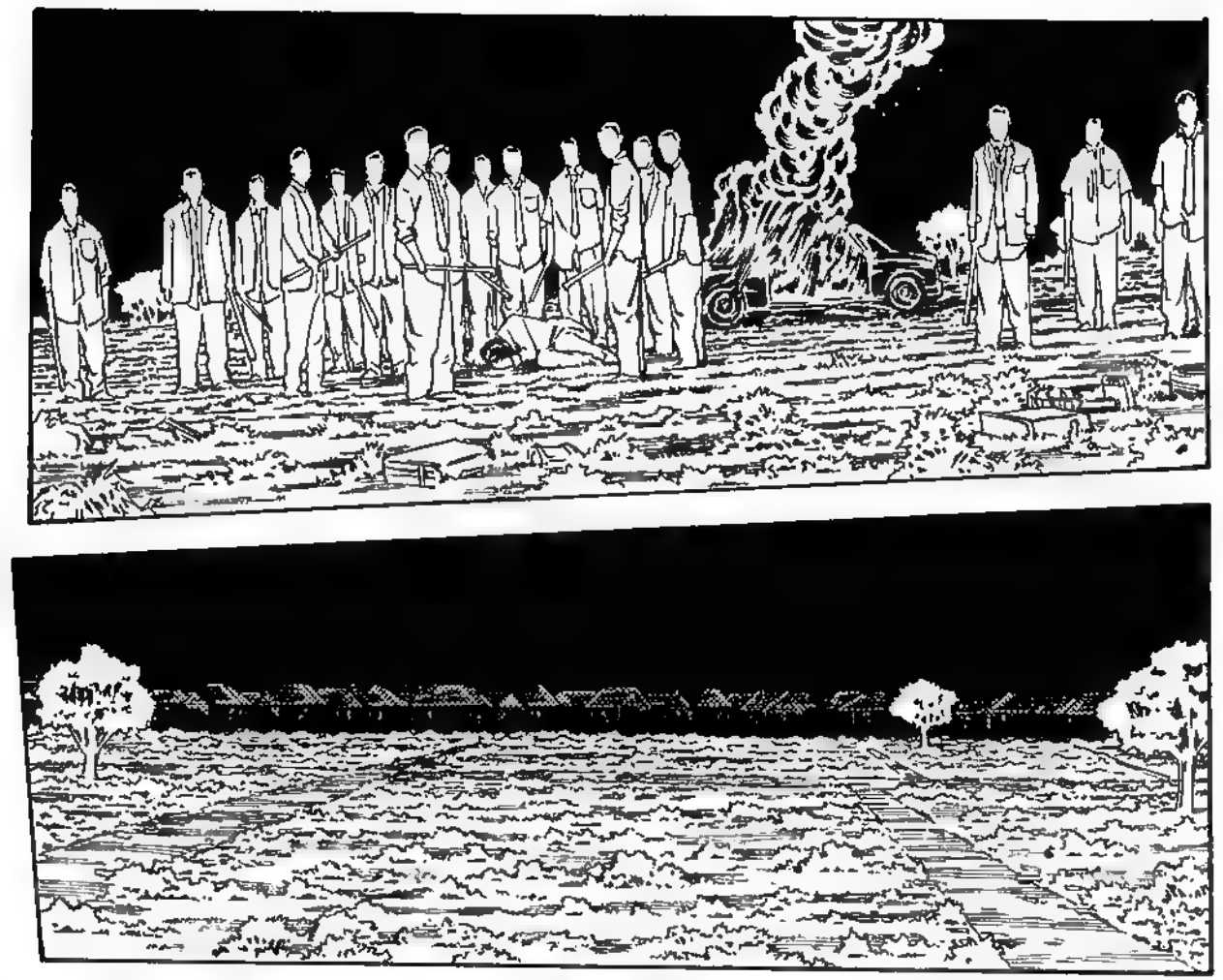
Yomogida ····· Detective in charge of a case that occurred in Soiru Village back in 1951.

Inspector Sakurada ····· Two officials from the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department.
and Sakura



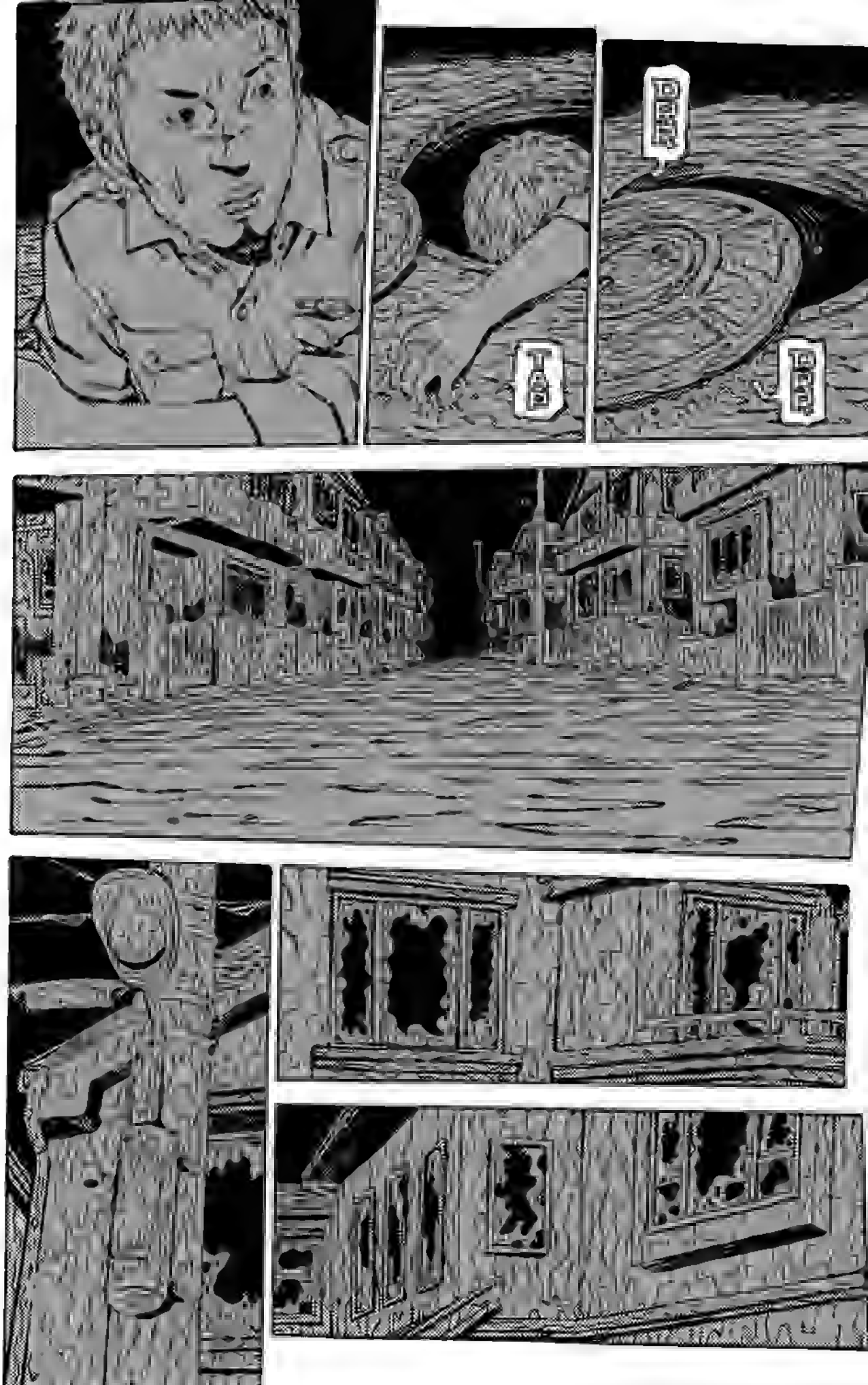

Think my arm's broken...
Shit...
!!
OWW!

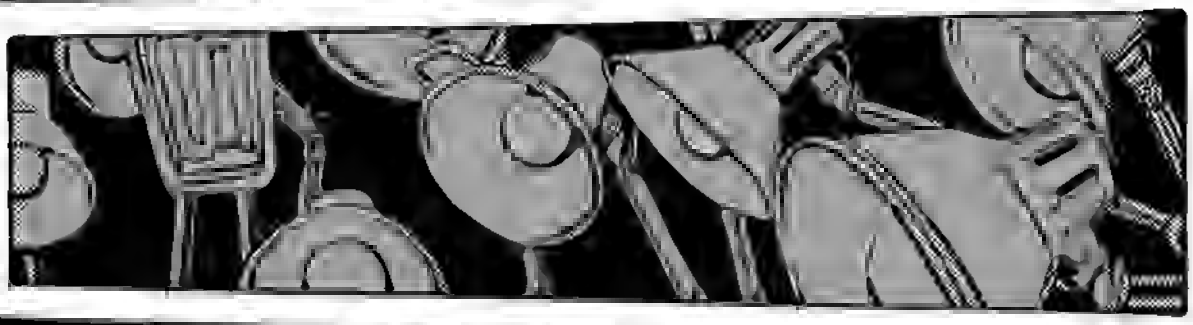
Hey...
Look...

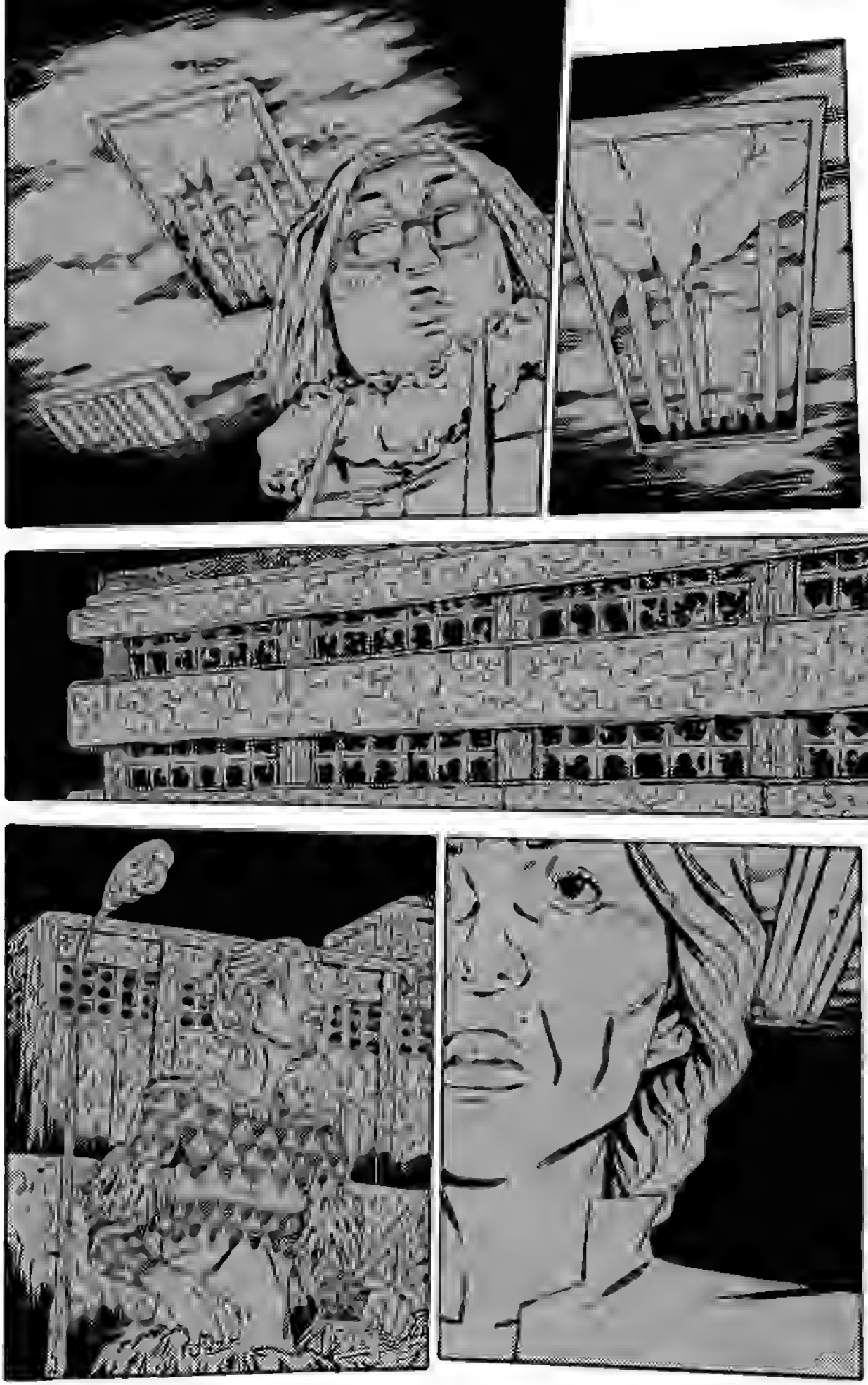


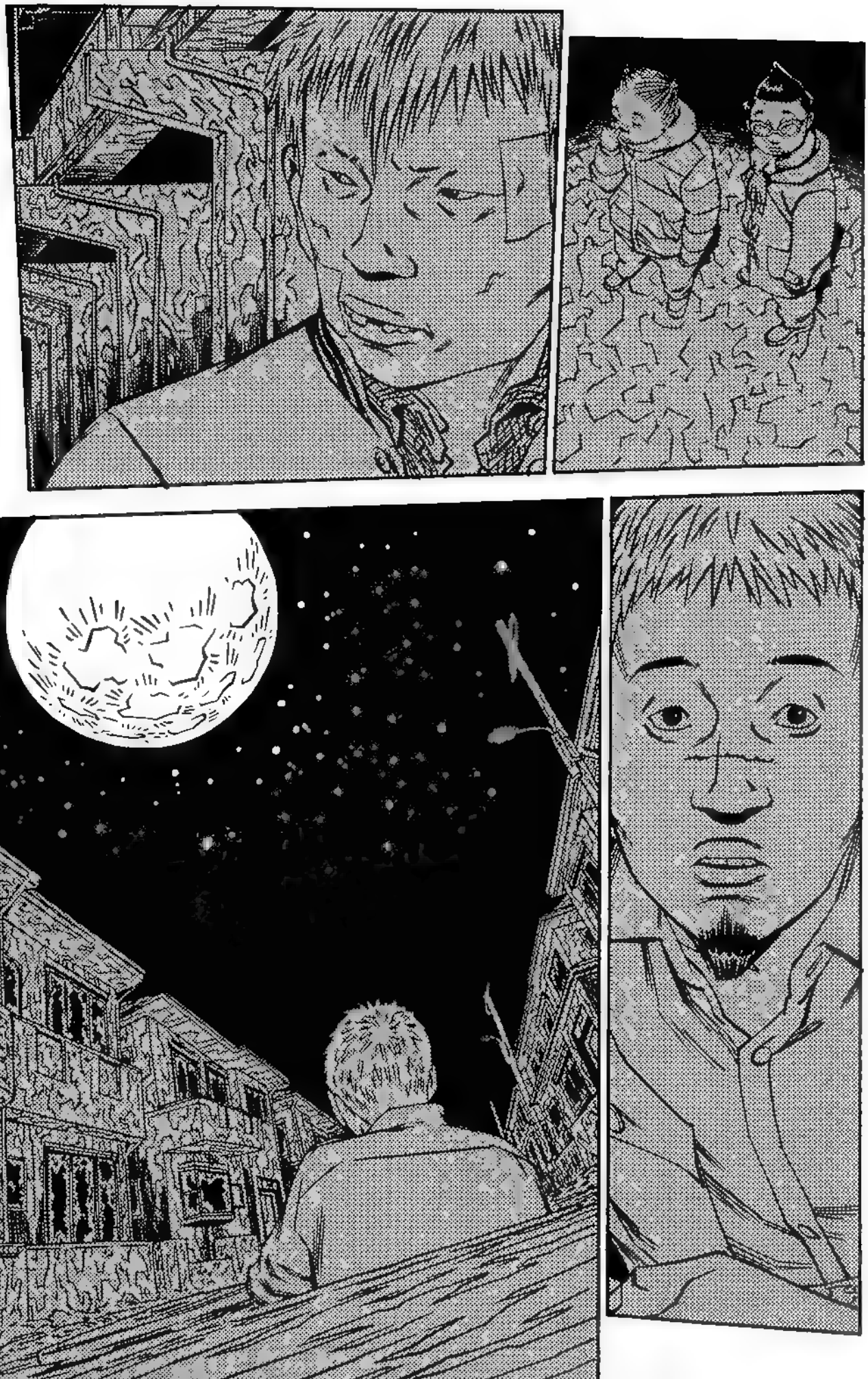
The town...!
Aahh...!

Soil is...!

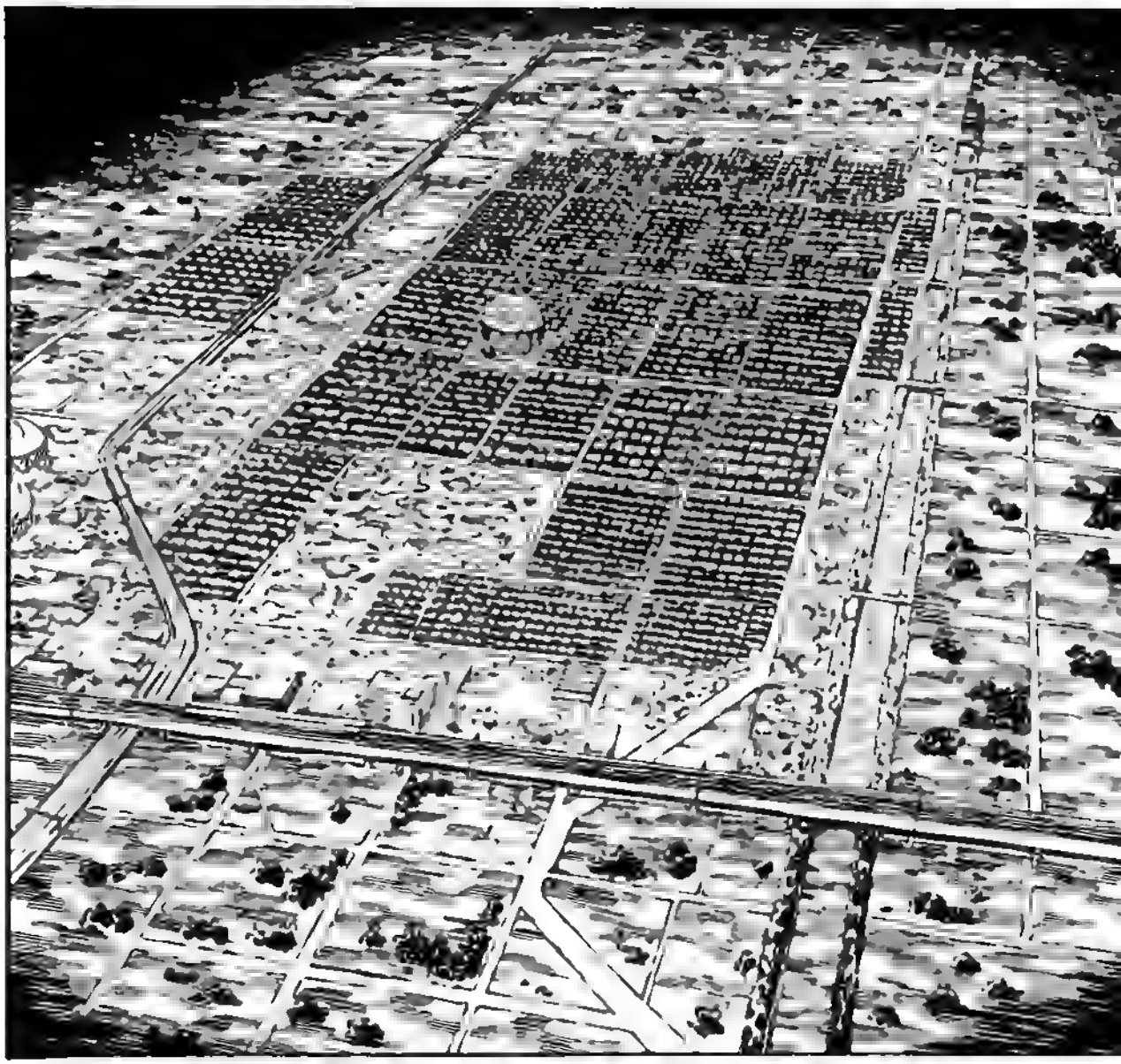




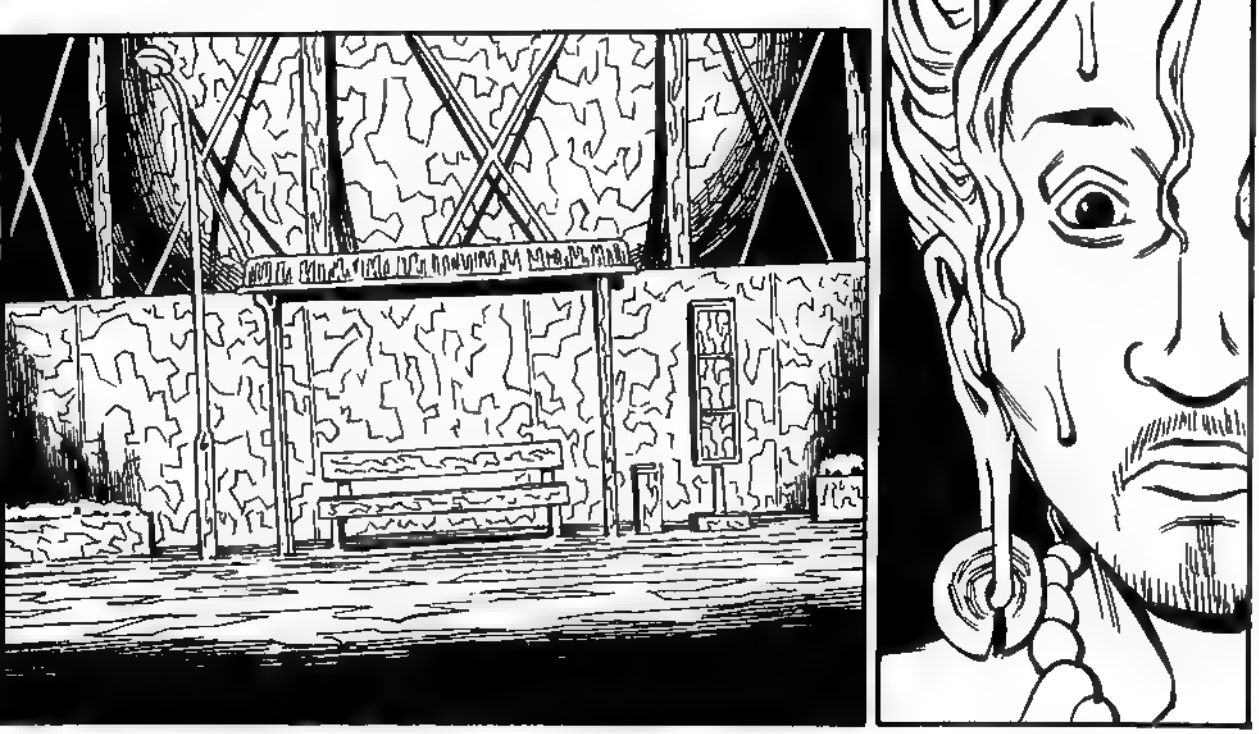




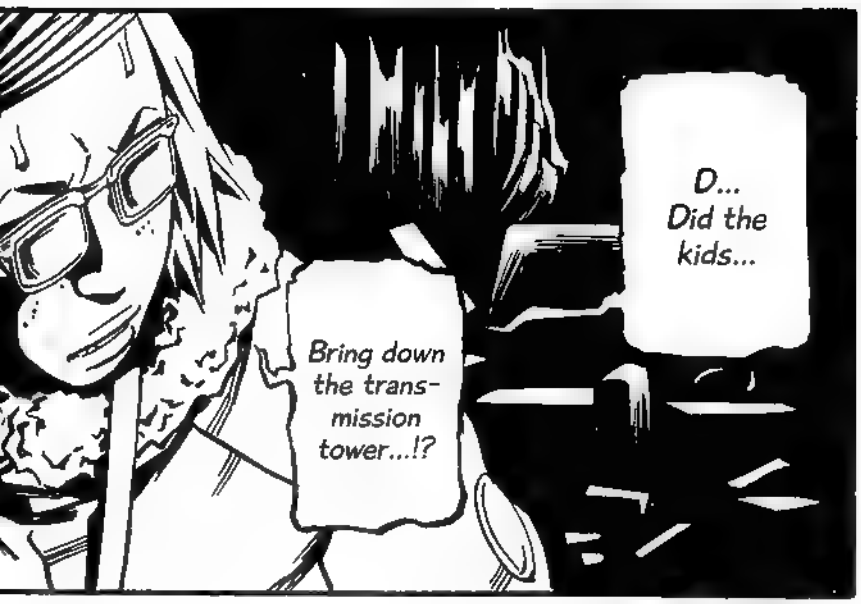
BLOCK 3-30

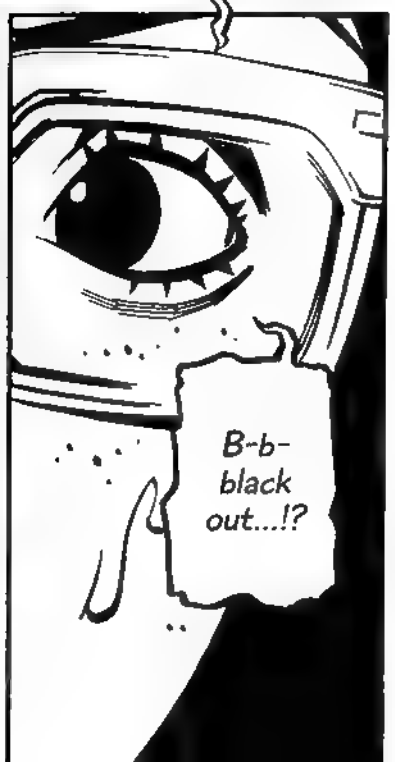


[From the Darkness]



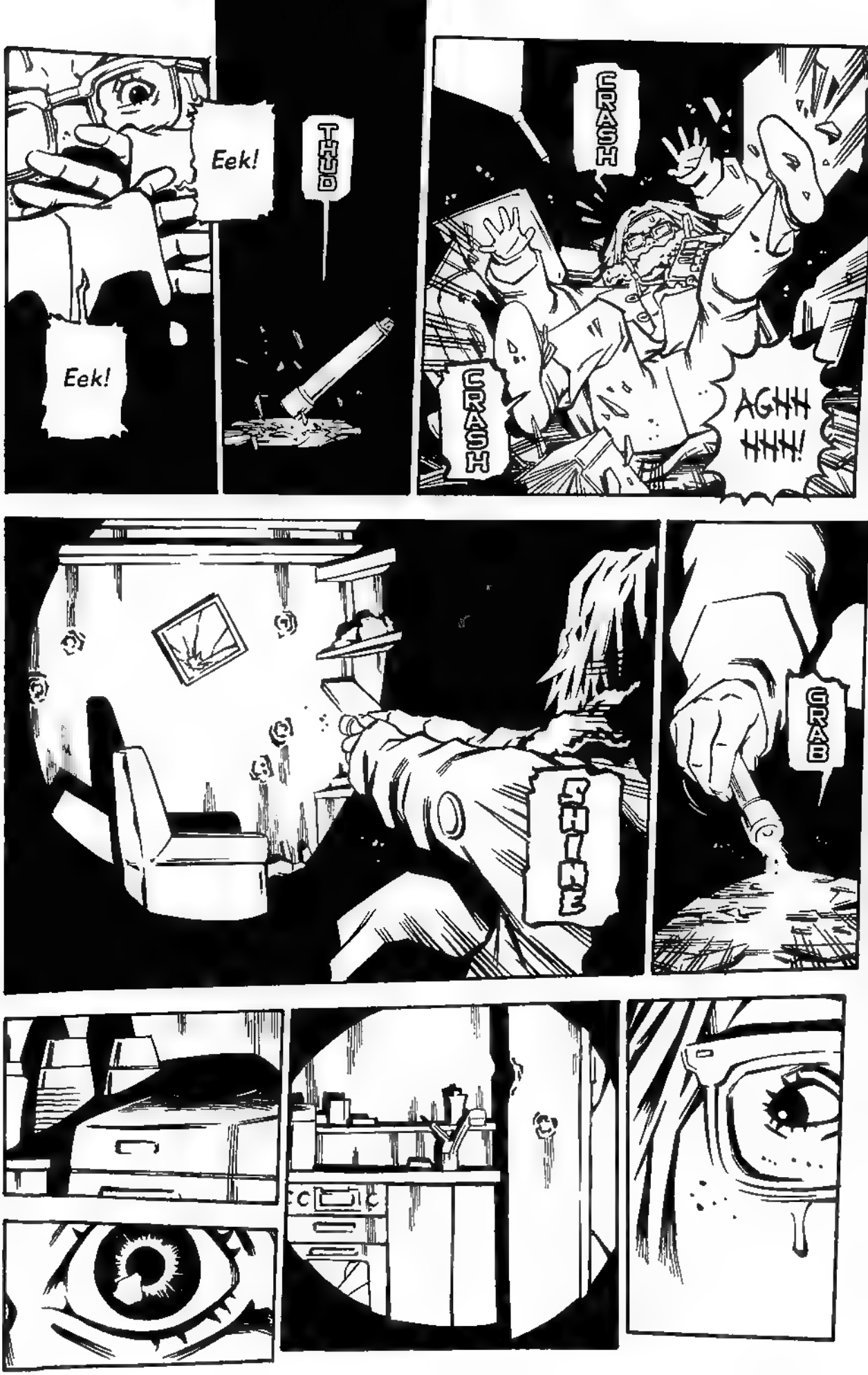
B...

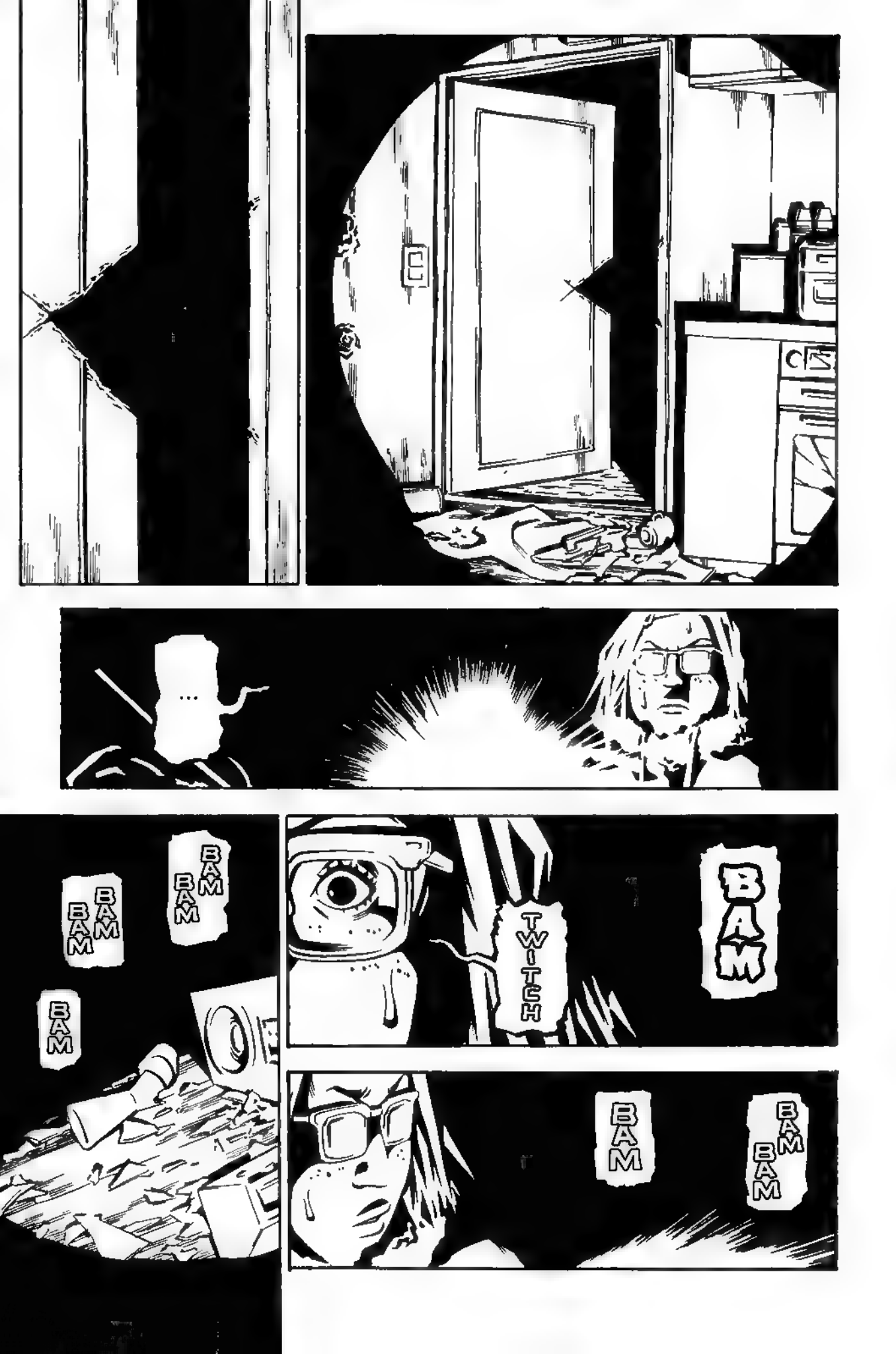

Bring down the trans-mission tower...!?
D... Did the kids...


B-b-black out...!?

Did the kids... do this...!?
STAND
Youhei!
As that night...
It's the same...
!?
Urgh hhh
HAAA

FLICK
Aagh hhh...
Aaa-
STEP
STEP
Agh hh...
BAAA!
AHH HHH!
SLIP


Eek!
Eek!
THUD
CRASH
CRASH
AGHH HHH!
SHINE
GRAB

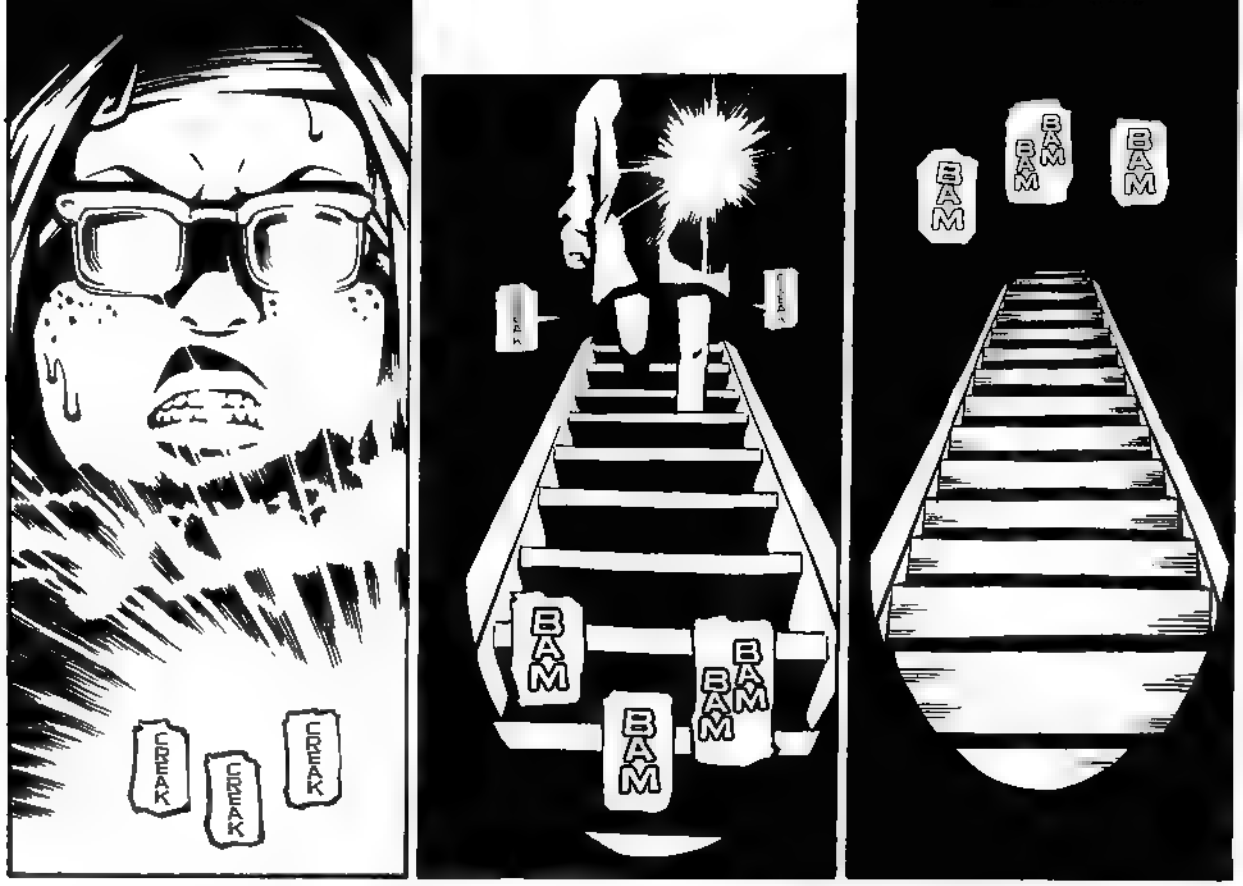

...
BAM
TWITCH
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

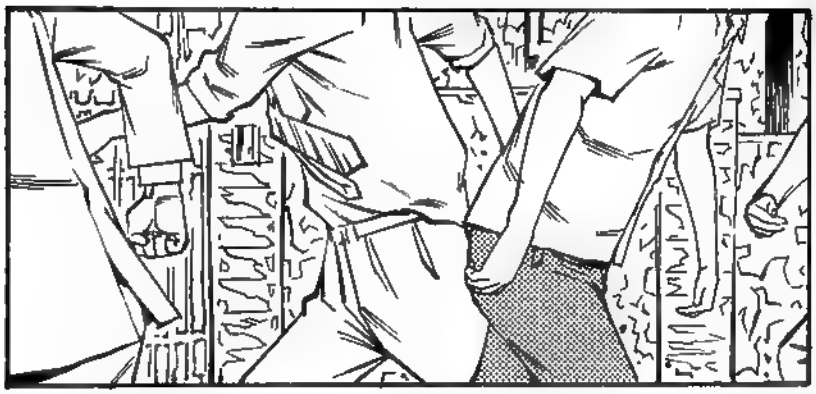
BAM BAM BAM
BAM BAM
BAM BAM
OFFICER!
HEY, YOU!
YOU!
WHERE THE HELL WAS THE TOWN UNTIL N-
WHY'S THERE A BLACK-OUT!?
W-WHAT'S WITH ALL THIS SALT!?
TELL US EVERY-THING!
WHAT'S GOING ON!!?

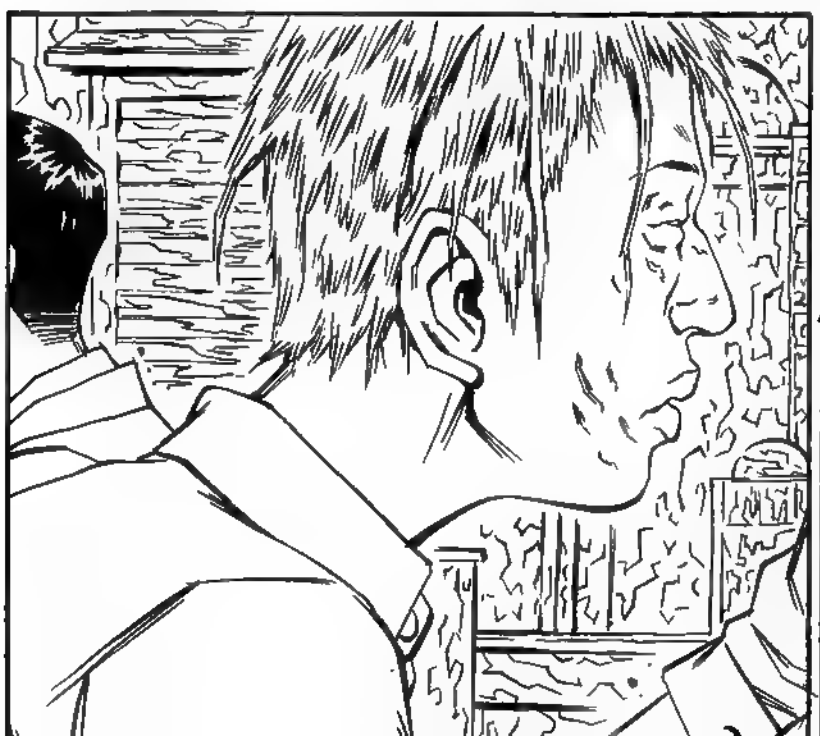
WHERE'D THEY ALL GO!?
I DON'T SEE MY WIFE OR KIDS ANY-WHERE!
AND THERE'S NO ONE IN OUR HOMES!
HEY! ARE YOU EVEN LIS-TENING!?
...
The Suzushiro's place? You sure!?
Do you know the way!?
I think it's this way...
STEP
Ohh...
Your wives all gathered around the Suzushiro's home...
...

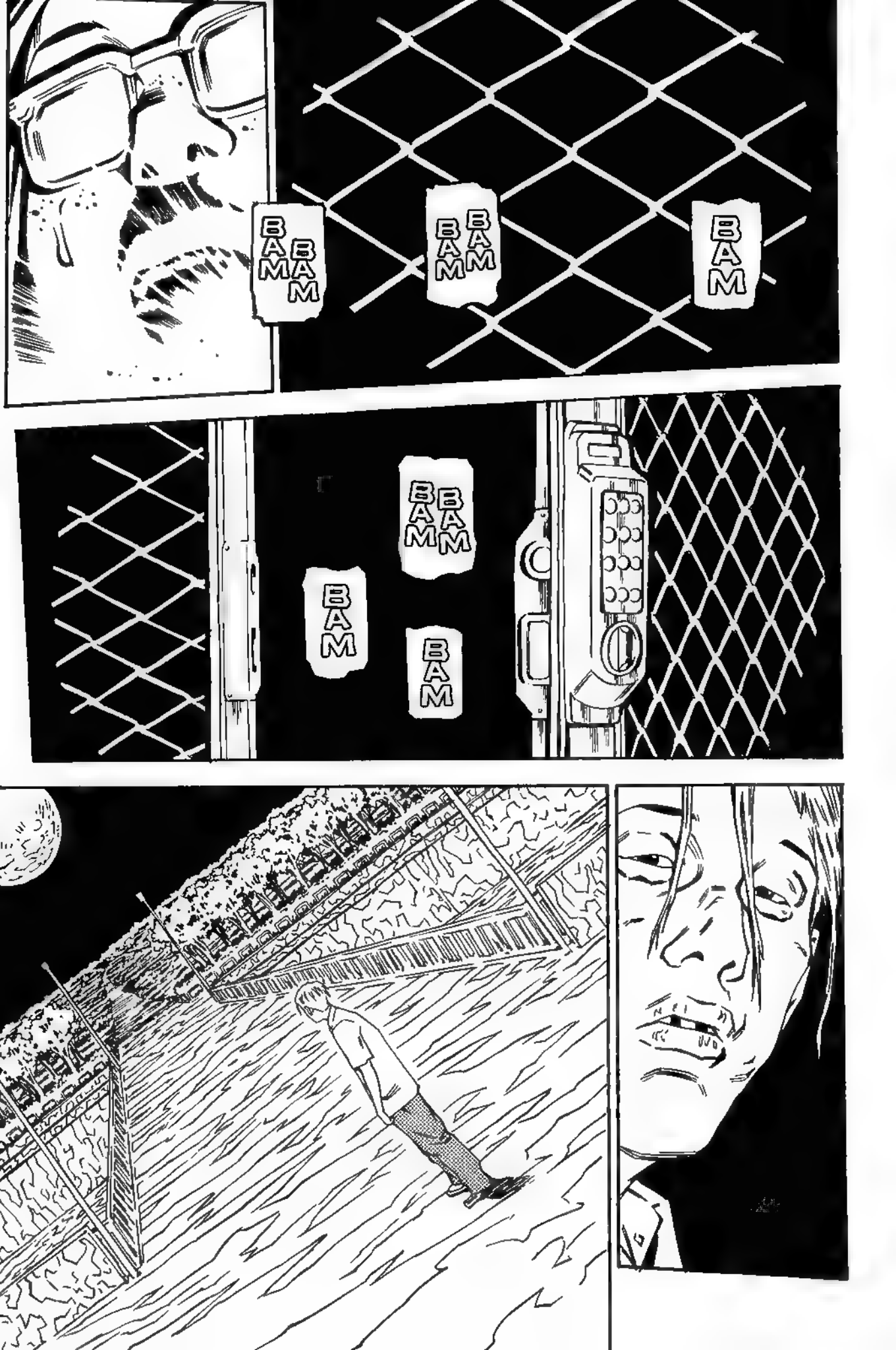
F... Finally found you...
Oh... Mr. Tokita...
Huff
Huff
Huff
What're you standing around here with a blank-face for...?
OFFICER KATAKURI!
OFFICER KATAKURI!
...
Well... The kids headed just outside the town in mass...
I'm sure the current blackout is their doing...
AH!
...
Oh, I was just... taking my time to fully process the current situation.
I got a major case of déjà vu about this night...

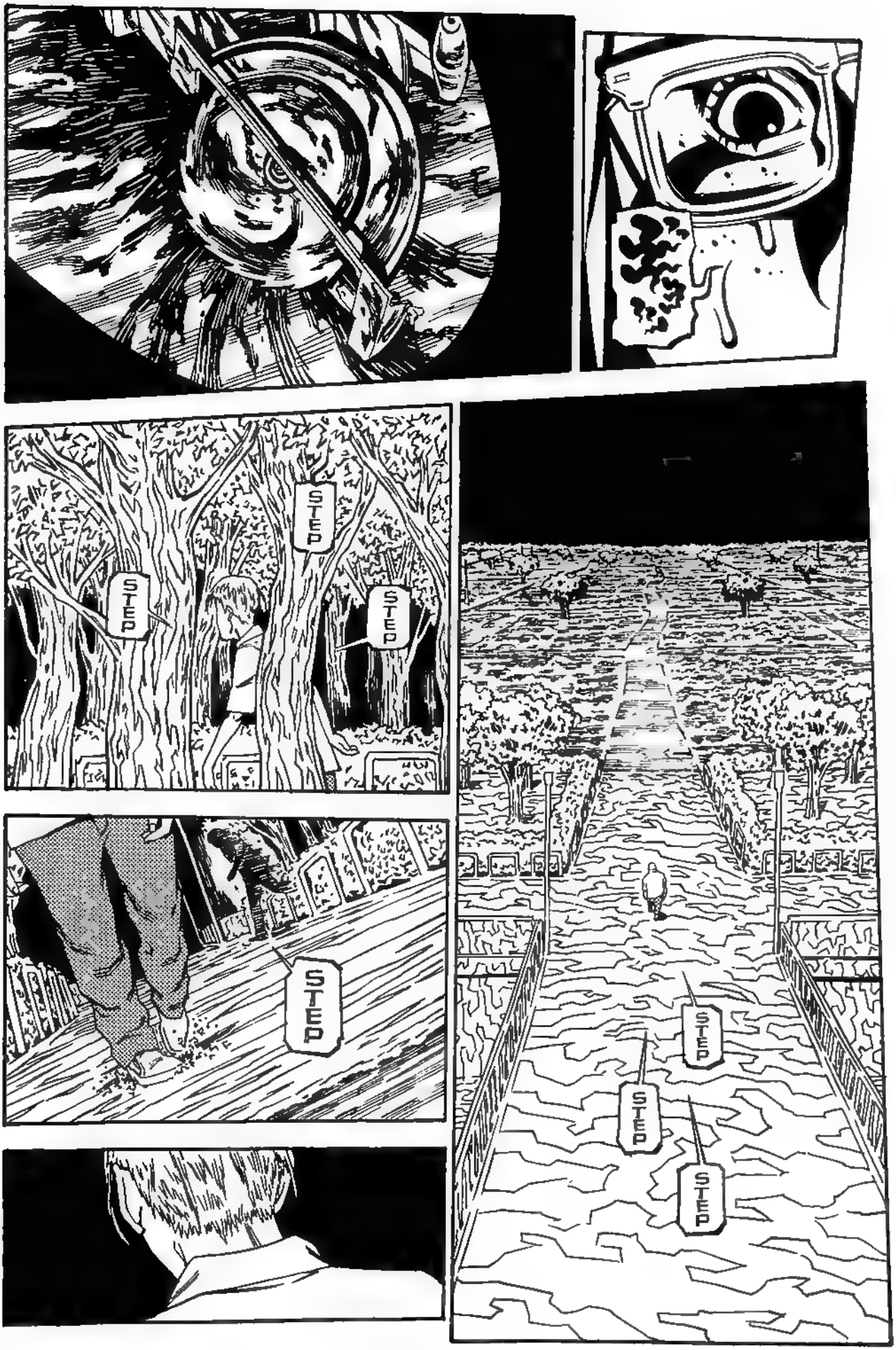
So that's how it is!
Oww! Ugh, my arm's aching again!
It's just like the night when the Suzushiros and Ichinose disappeared...
T-the trans-mission tower!
You sayin' that the kids brought it down!?
N... No, I haven't...
Huh?
Things have been pretty hectic for me too...
...
He tried to steal my gun...
Ah, that's right!
Did you see a middle school kid carrying a pair of scissors!?
I'm afraid her life is at risk...!
We have to find a female student named Kataoka Misa...

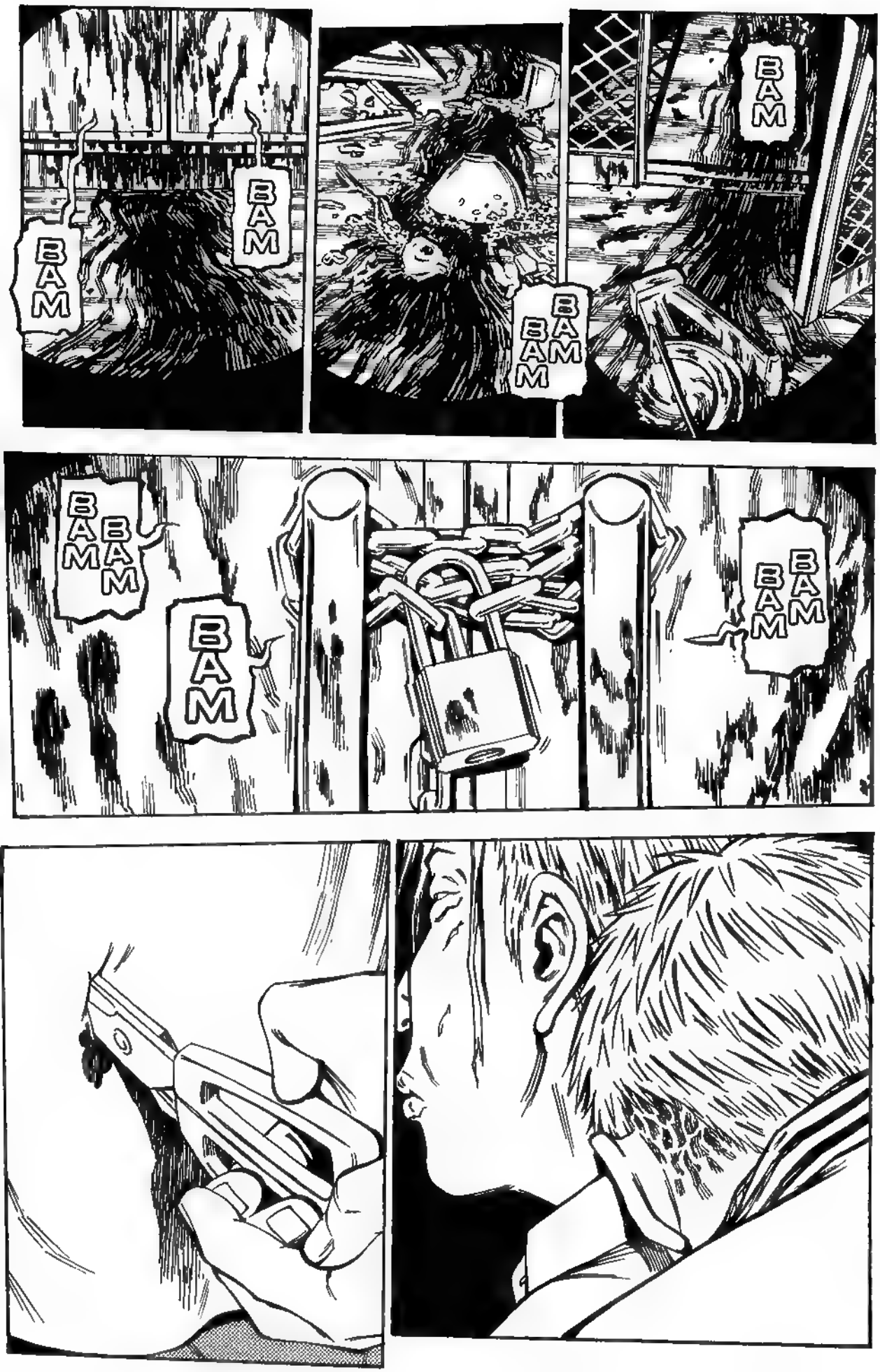

UREAK
UREAK
UREAK
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM






BAM BAM
BAM BAM
BAM
BAM BAM
BAM
BAM


STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP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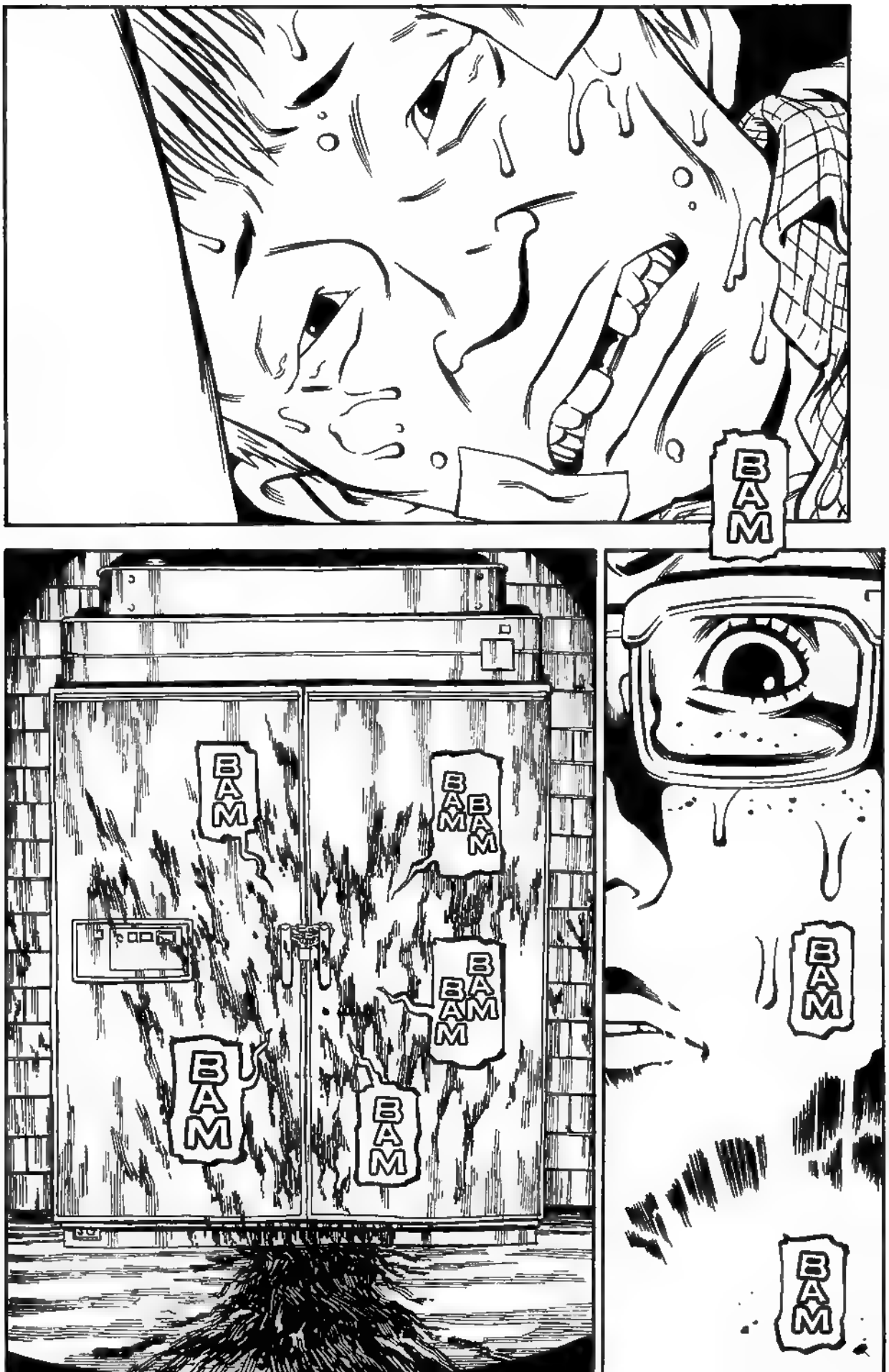
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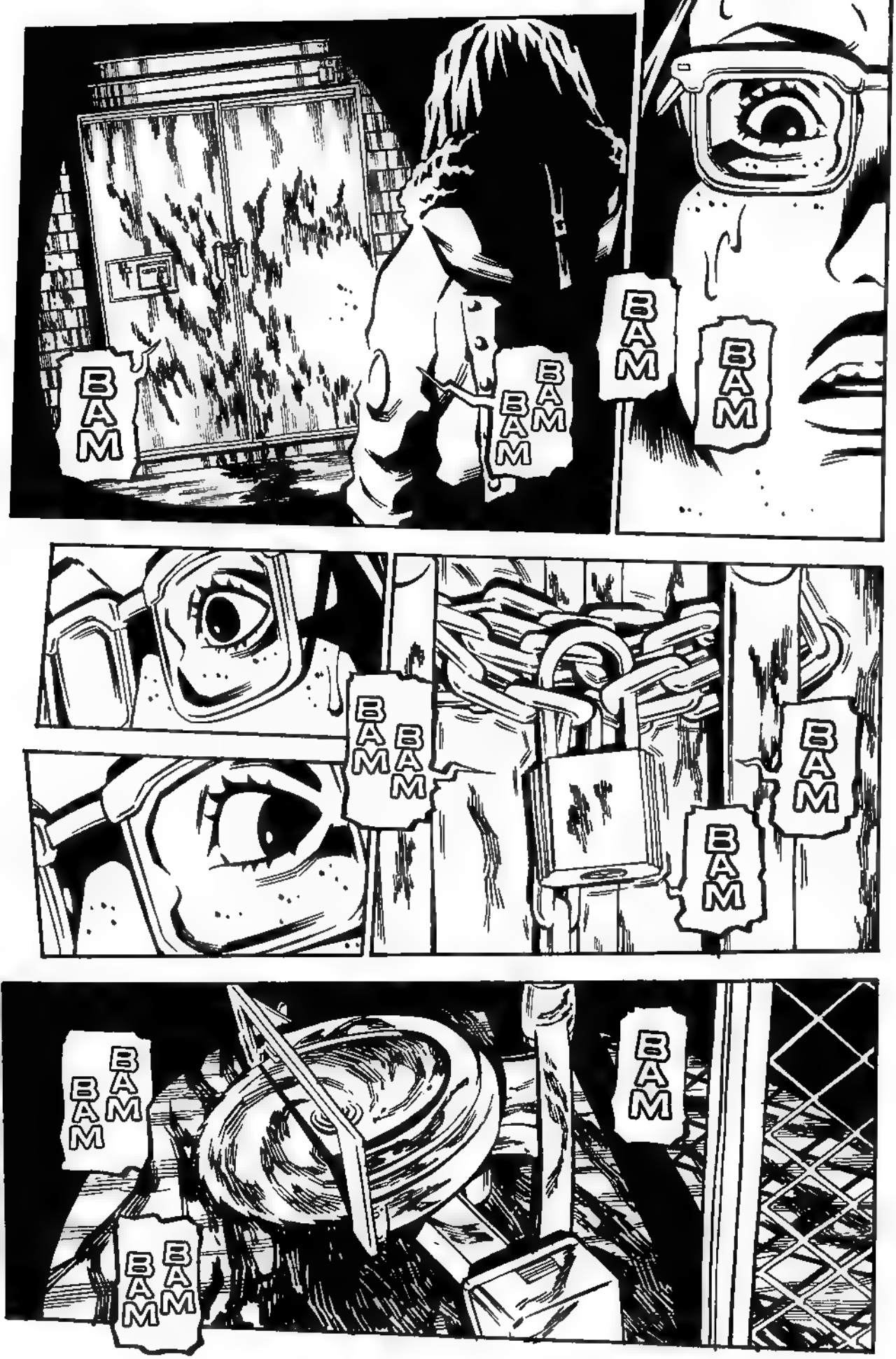
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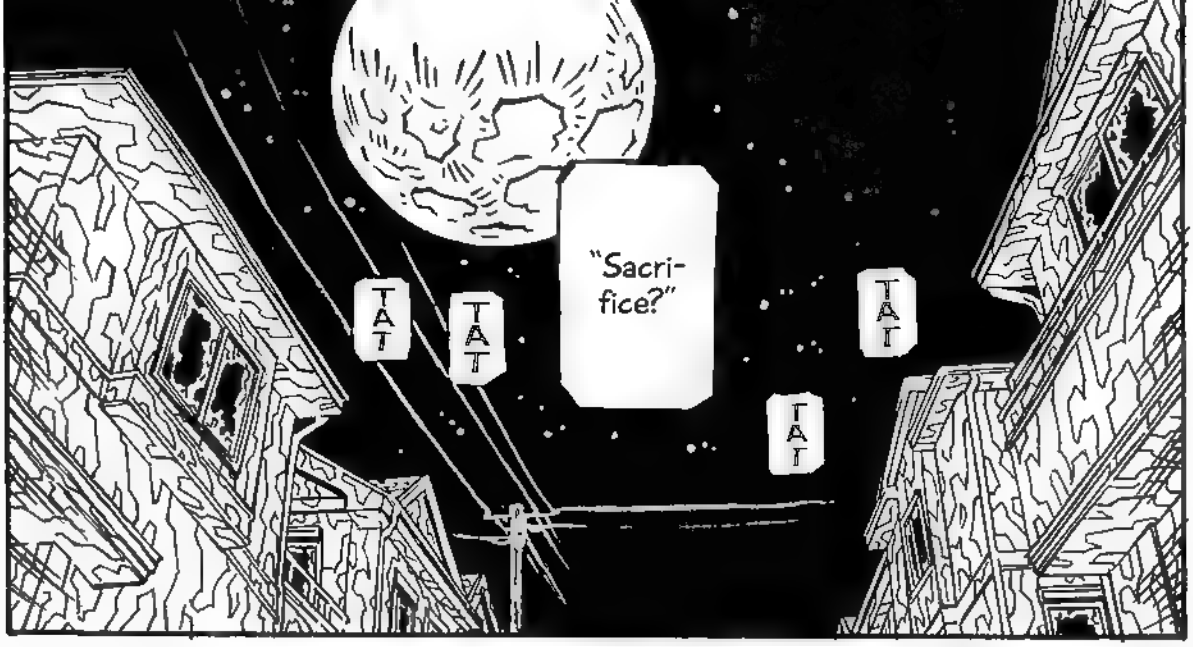
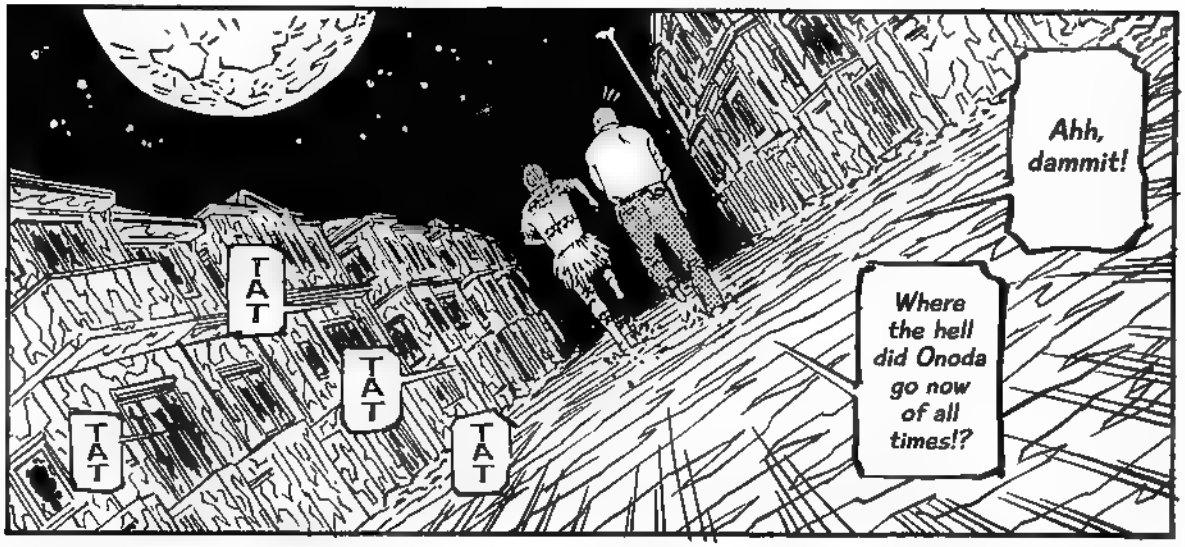

"Sacri-
fice?"
TAT
TAT
TAT
TAT

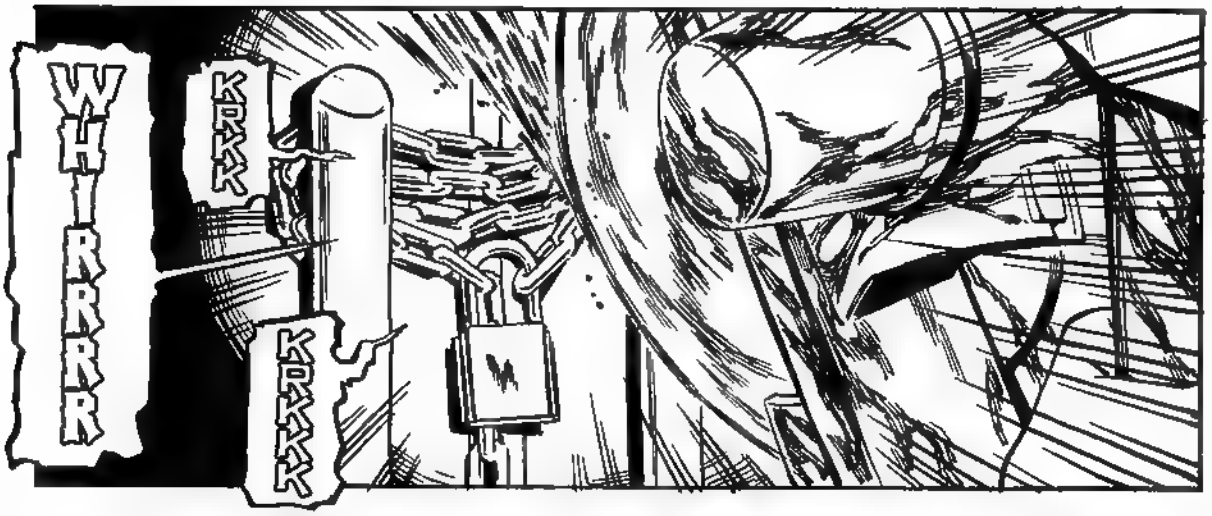
The sacrifice I'm talking about is Kataoka Misa..!
I fear that her life will be given as an offering very soon...!

TAT
TAT
TAT
Its meaning is most definitely not trendy.
W... What's that? Some sorta trendy English word?

But it's not like she's at home...
How are the two of us alone gonna be able to find her...?

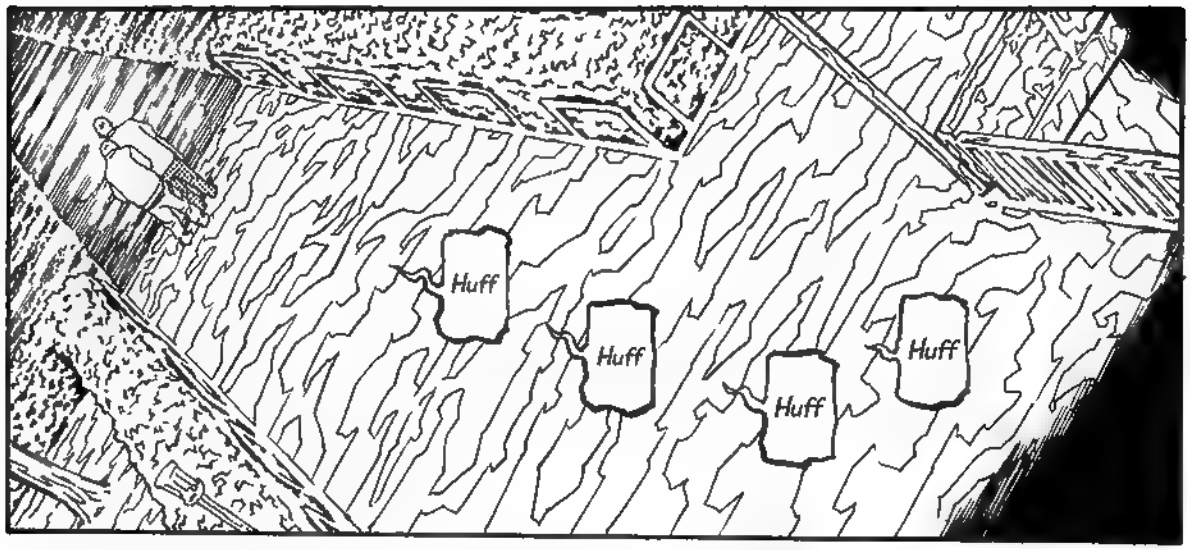
I'm afraid I don't know much more...
In any case, we have to find and protect her for now...!
An offering...? To who...? And how...!?

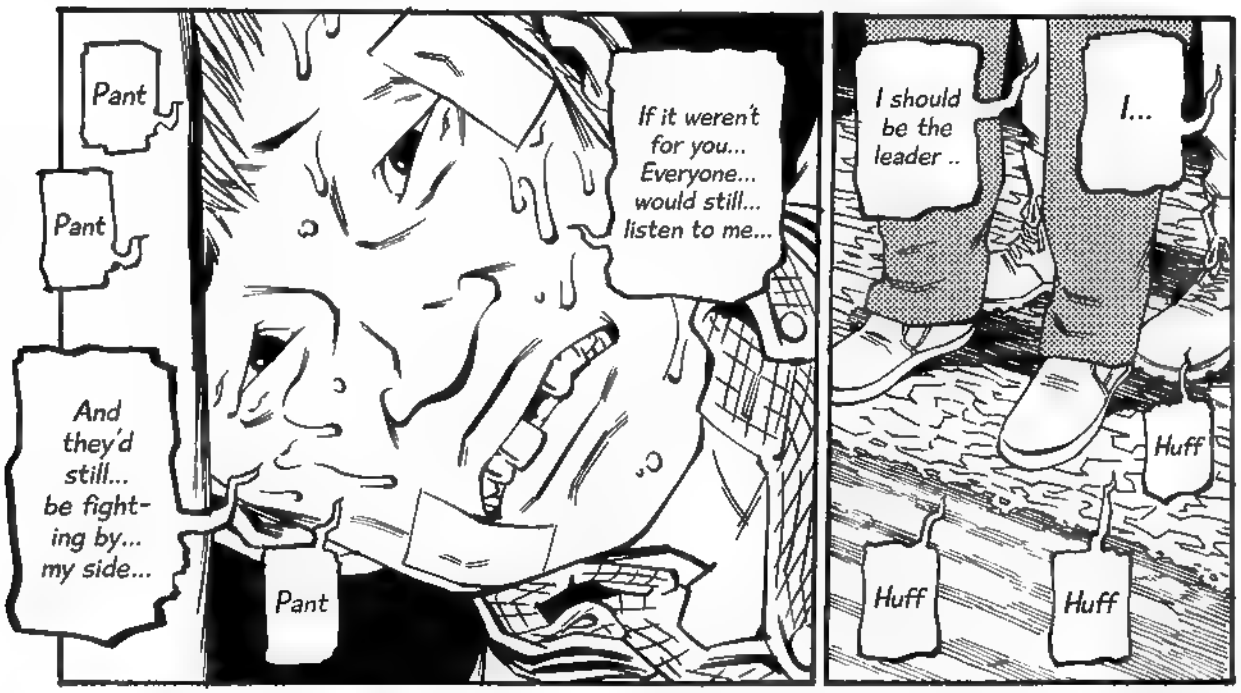

Ahh, dammit!
Where the hell did Onoda go now of all times!?
TAT
TAT
TAT
TAT


WHIRRRR
KRAK
KRAK

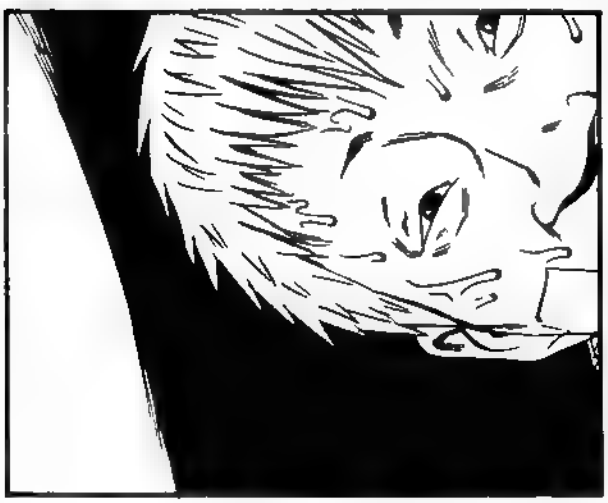
WHIRRRR
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK

KRAK
KRAKKK
THUD!
AGHH HHH!


Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff

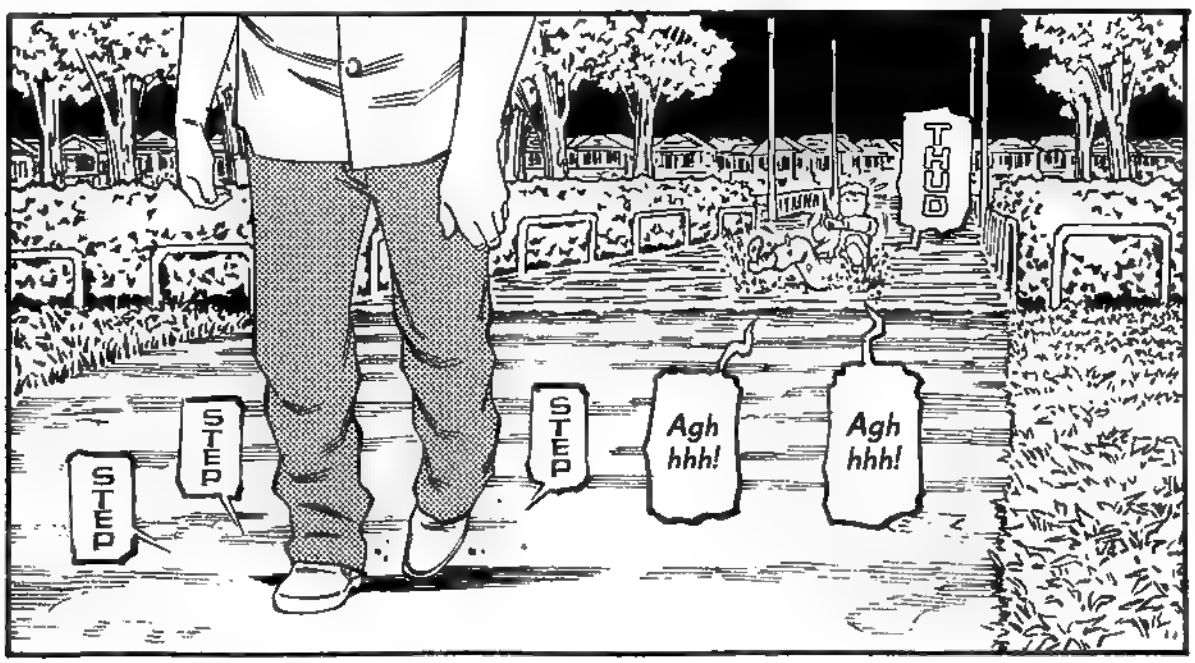

Pant
Pant
And they'd still... be fighting by... my side...
Pant
If it weren't for you... Everyone... would still... listen to me...
I should be the leader ..
I...
Huff
Huff
Huff

SIED



STEP
STEP
STEP
...

Ack...!


STEP
STEP
STEP
Agh hhh!
Agh hhh!
THUD

BLOCK 3-31

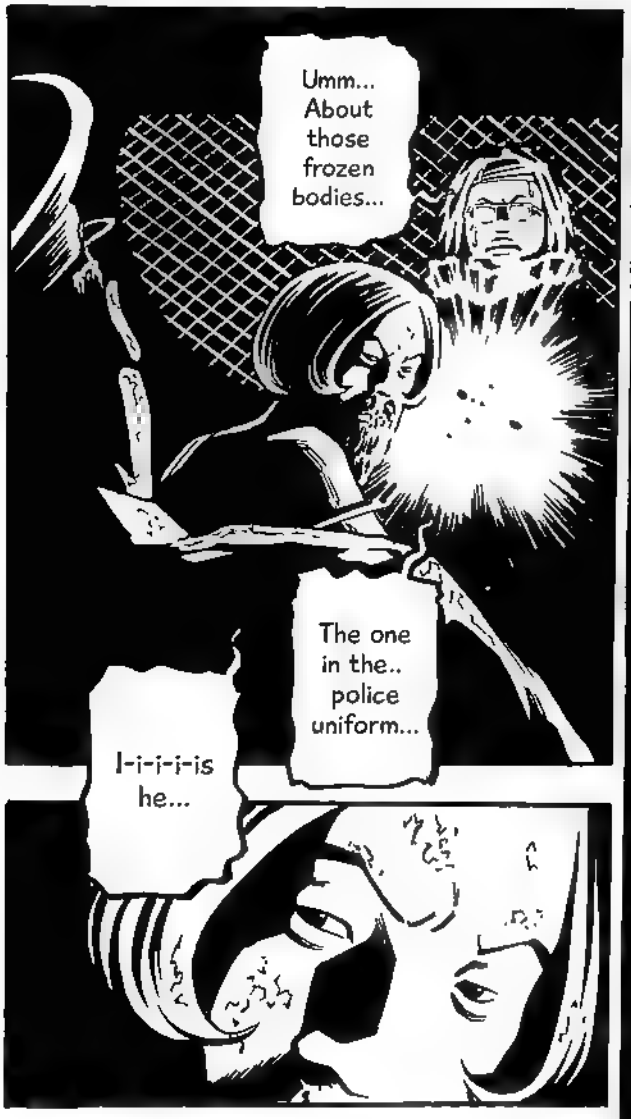
[Torn Cup]

...
AGH HHH!
AGH HHH!
SHIVER
SHIVER
AGHH HHH!
AGHH HHH!
AGHH HHHH!
SHIVER
SHIVER

SHIVER
SHIVER
Sergeant Yokoi...!?
S... S-s-s-s-s-

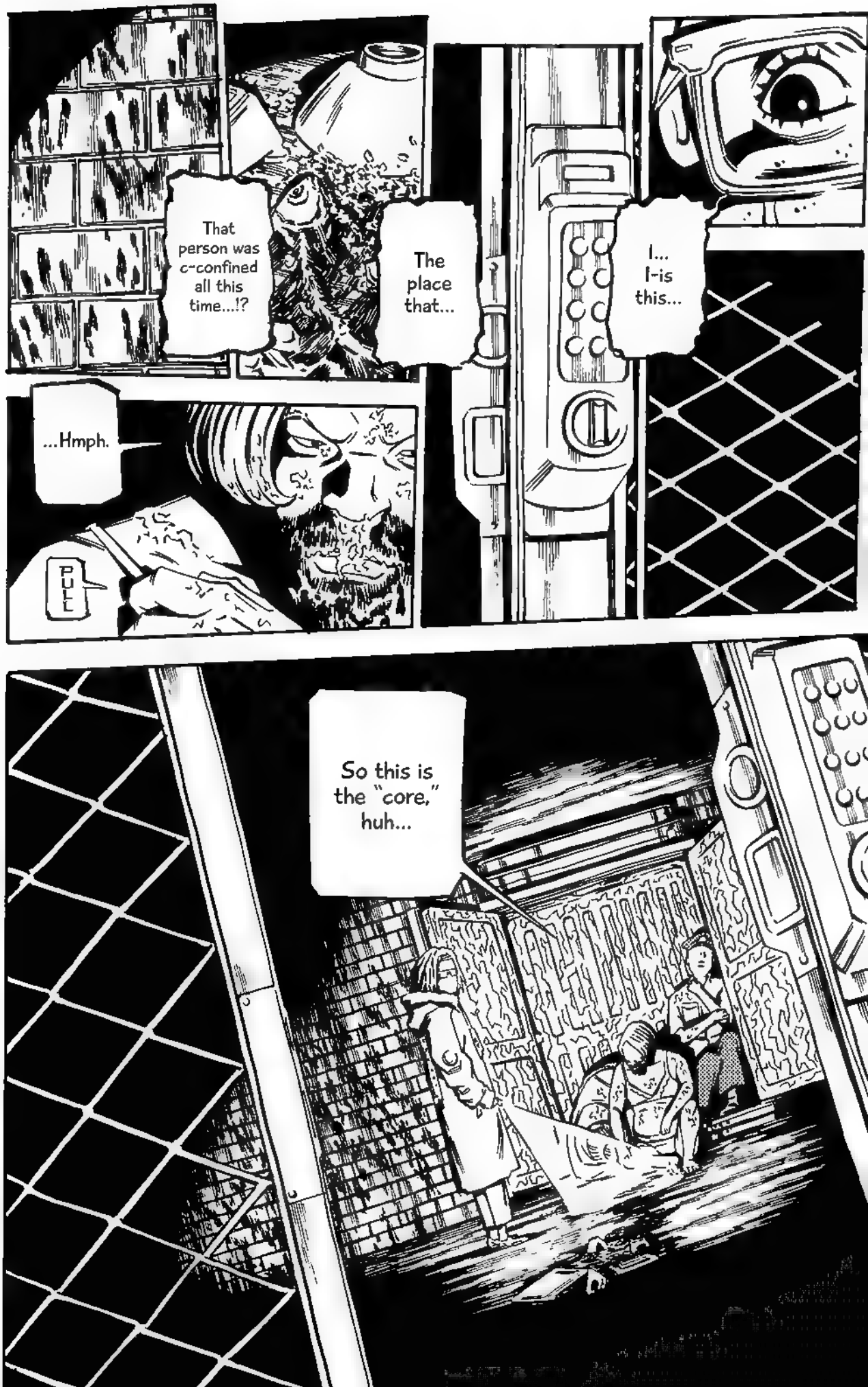
Look, all I know is that there was this wall in an abandoned building,
And inside it was a skeleton!
And when I entered the hole in that wall, I ended up here!

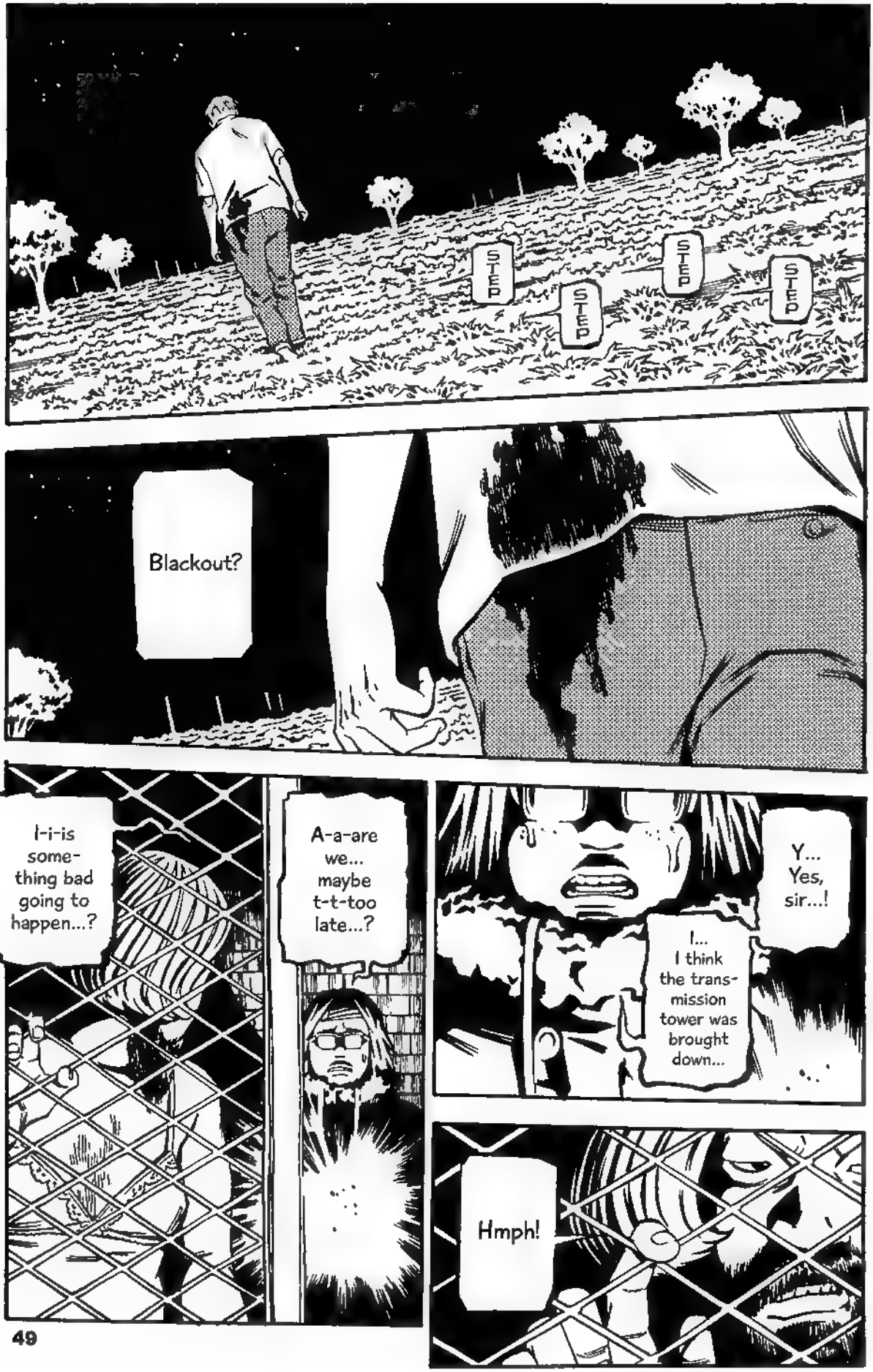
I... I d-d-don't even know where to begin...
I ain't got a clue either, bitch!


Umm... About those frozen bodies...
The one in the.. police uniform...
I-i-i-i-is he...

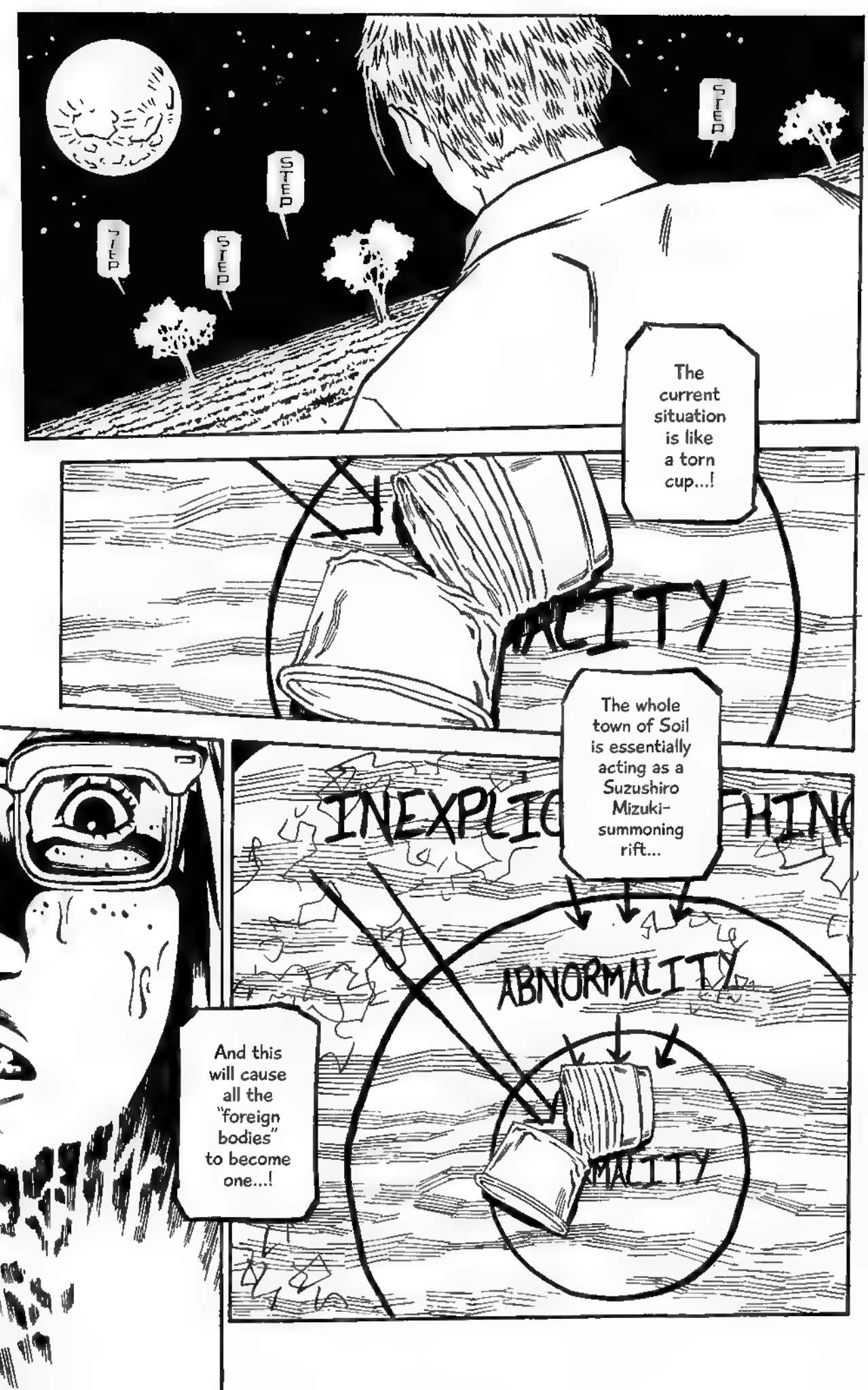
Why the hell is it so cold here anyways!? Am I in a literal fridge or something!?
Agh hhh!
...

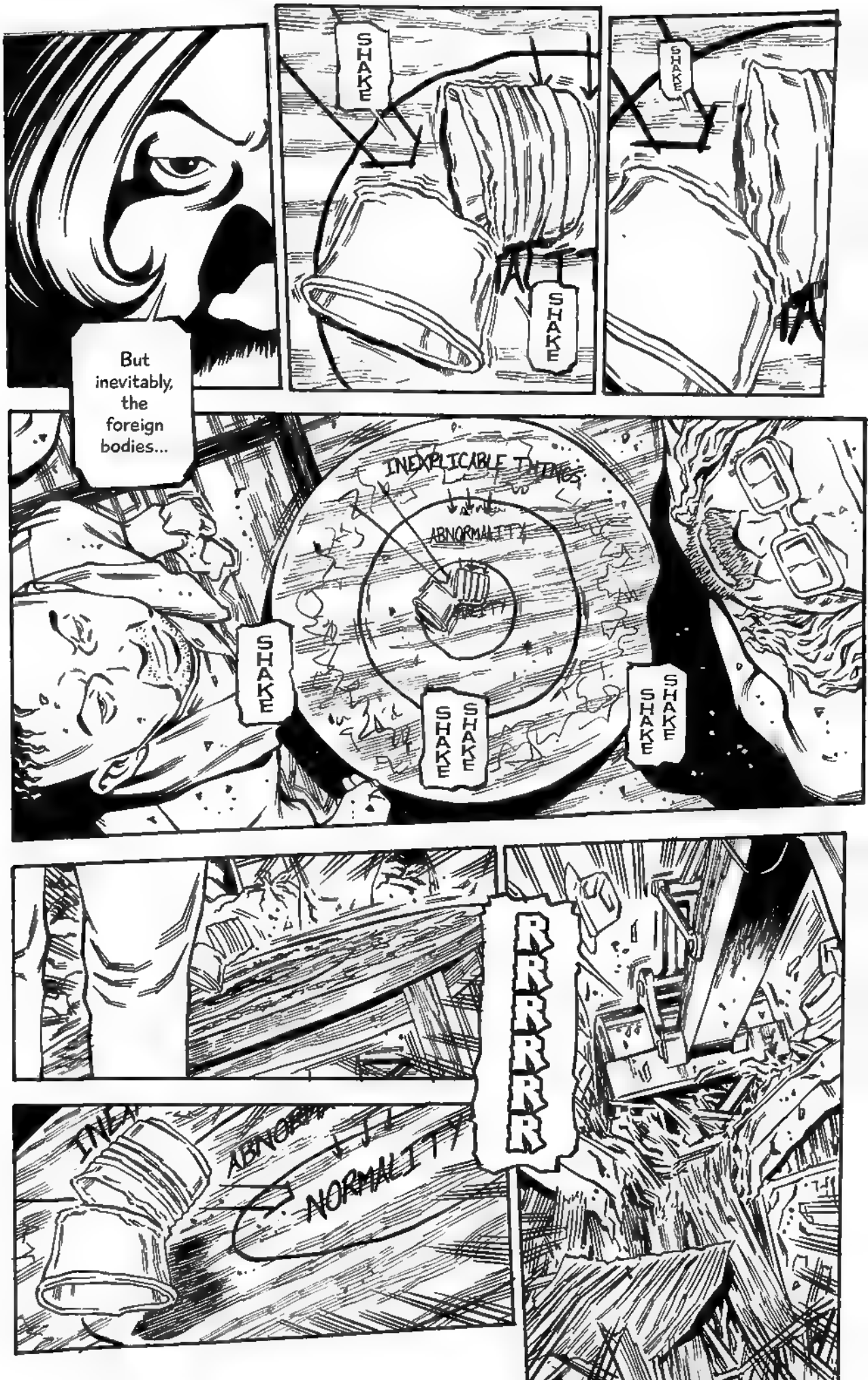
T-t-then that woman...
I-is likely the neighbour's daughter...
...
Yeah.
It's Ichinose.
Umm. J-just a moment ago.. I was attacked b-b-by someone...
A-a-and though it was dark... I s-saw something for an instant...
T-the attacker h-h-had...
Markings like f-fish scales all over his body...

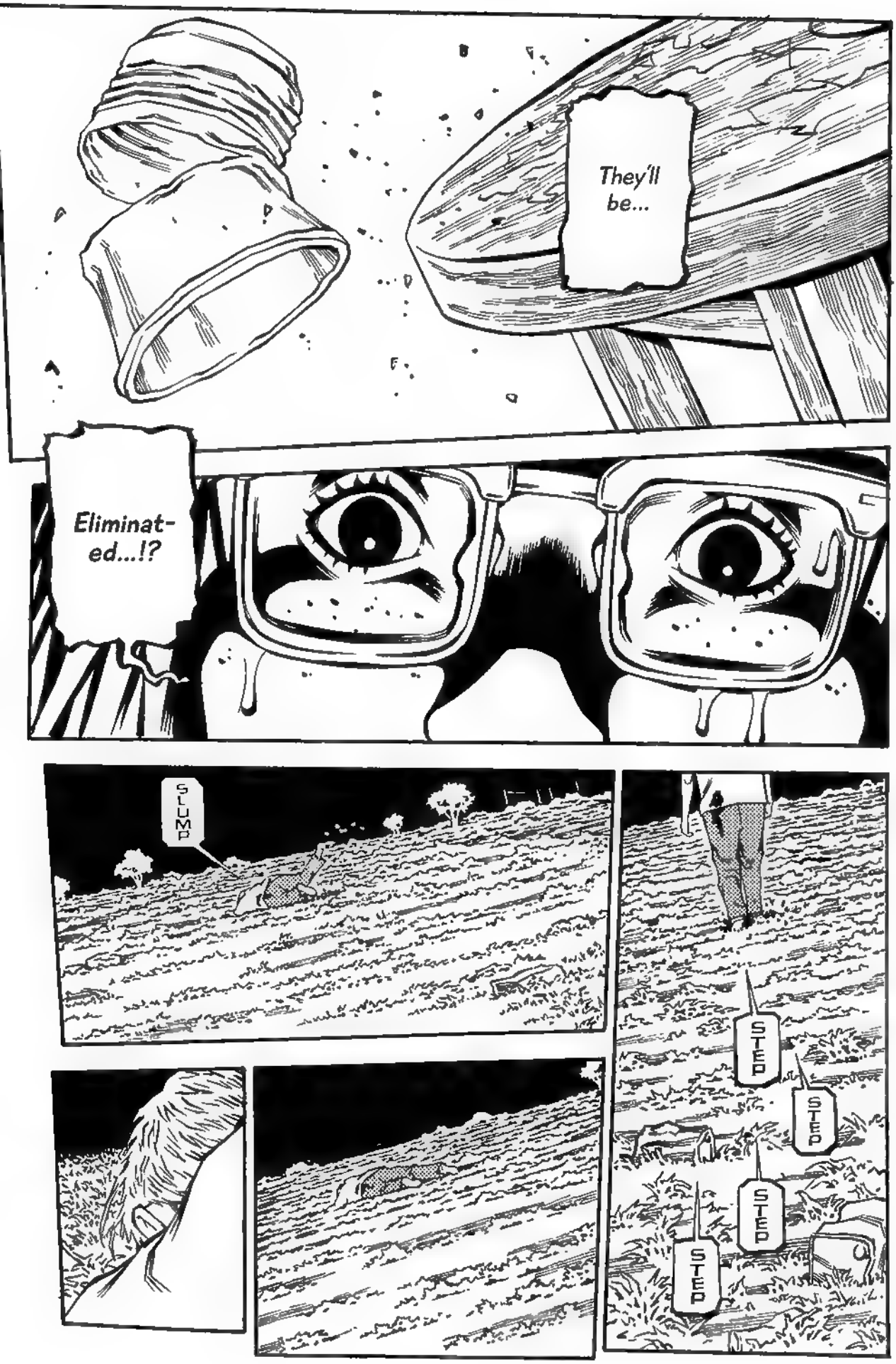

That person was c-confined all this time...!?
The place that...
I... I-is this...
...Hmph.
PUTL
So this is the "core," huh...


STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
Blackout?
I-i-is something bad going to happen...?
A-a-are we... maybe t-t-too late...?
Y... Yes, sir...!
I... I think the transmission tower was brought down...
Hmph!

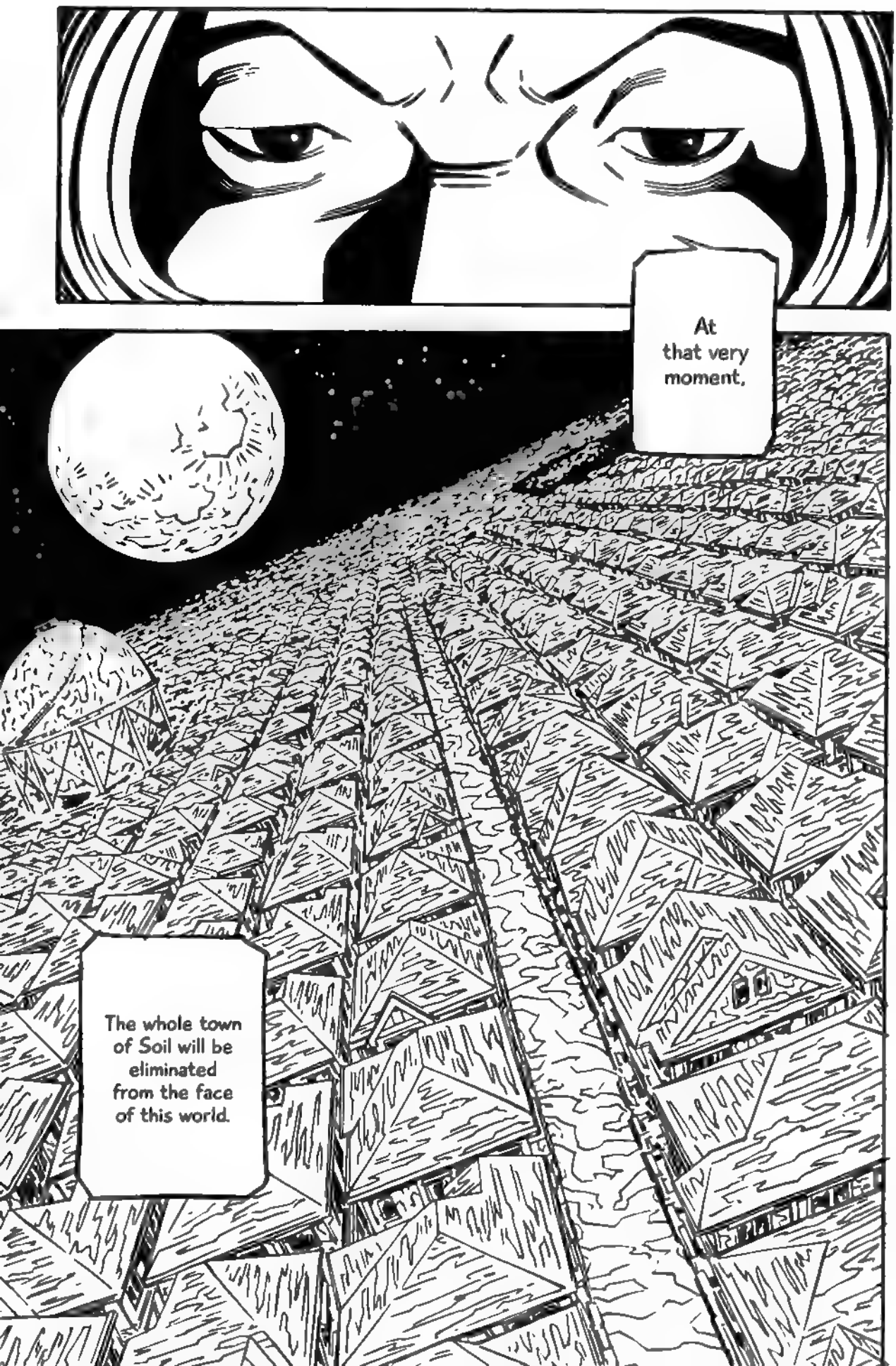
S .. So umm .. W-what exactly is going to happen to the t-t-town...?
L... last time we talked.. You got cut off right at that part...
You still don't understand?
The worst case scenario is Suzushiro Mizuki and Miyahara Kento meeting again!
The town made the kids go berserk and they, in turn, have been trying to add to the chaos!
Basically...!
And have her meet Miyahara Kento...!
And if things continue as they are now, the town will re-summon Suzushiro Mizuki,

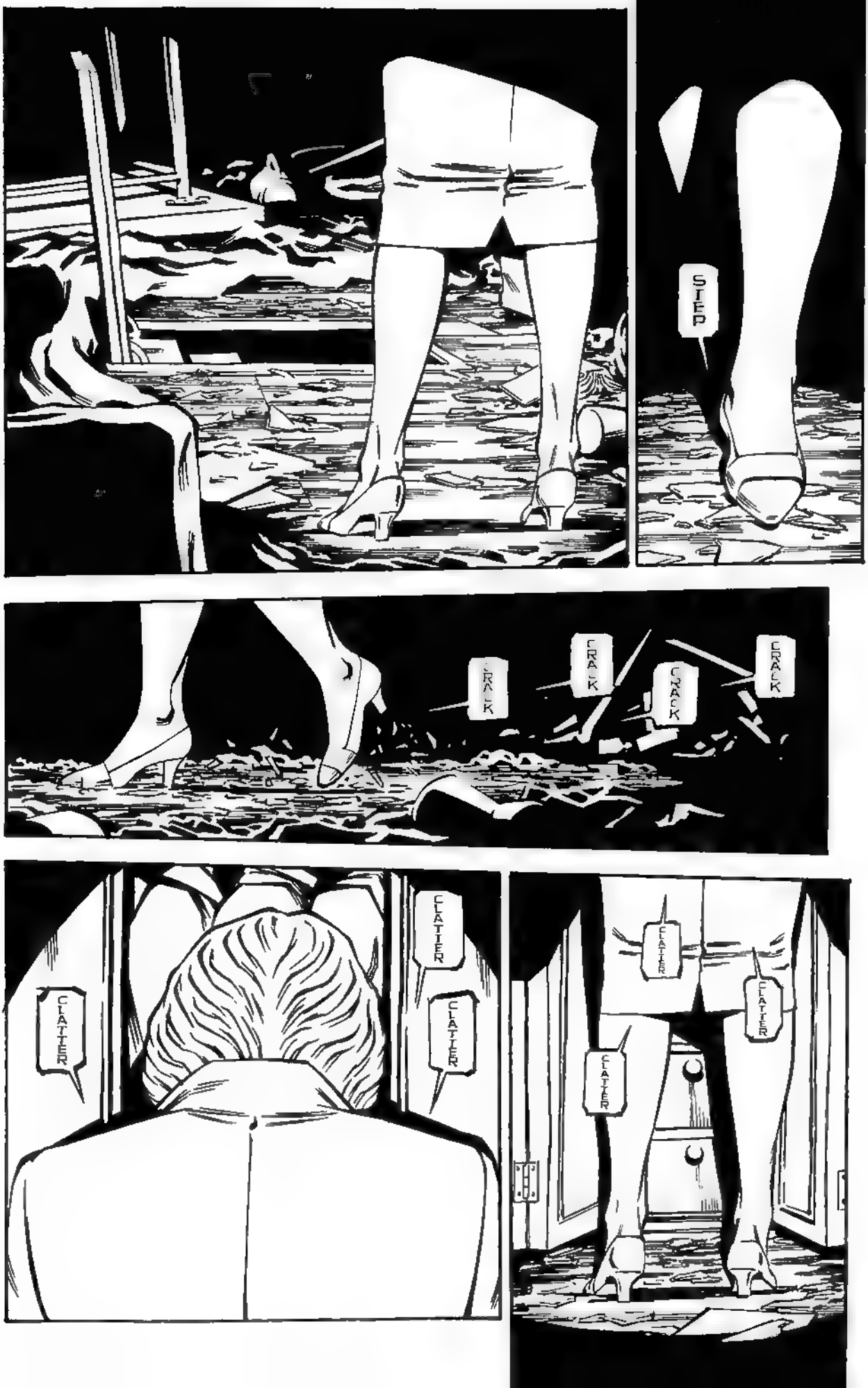

STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
The current situation is like a torn cup...!
The whole town of Soil is essentially acting as a Suzushiro Mizuki-summoning rift...
ABNORMALITY
And this will cause all the "foreign bodies" to become one...!

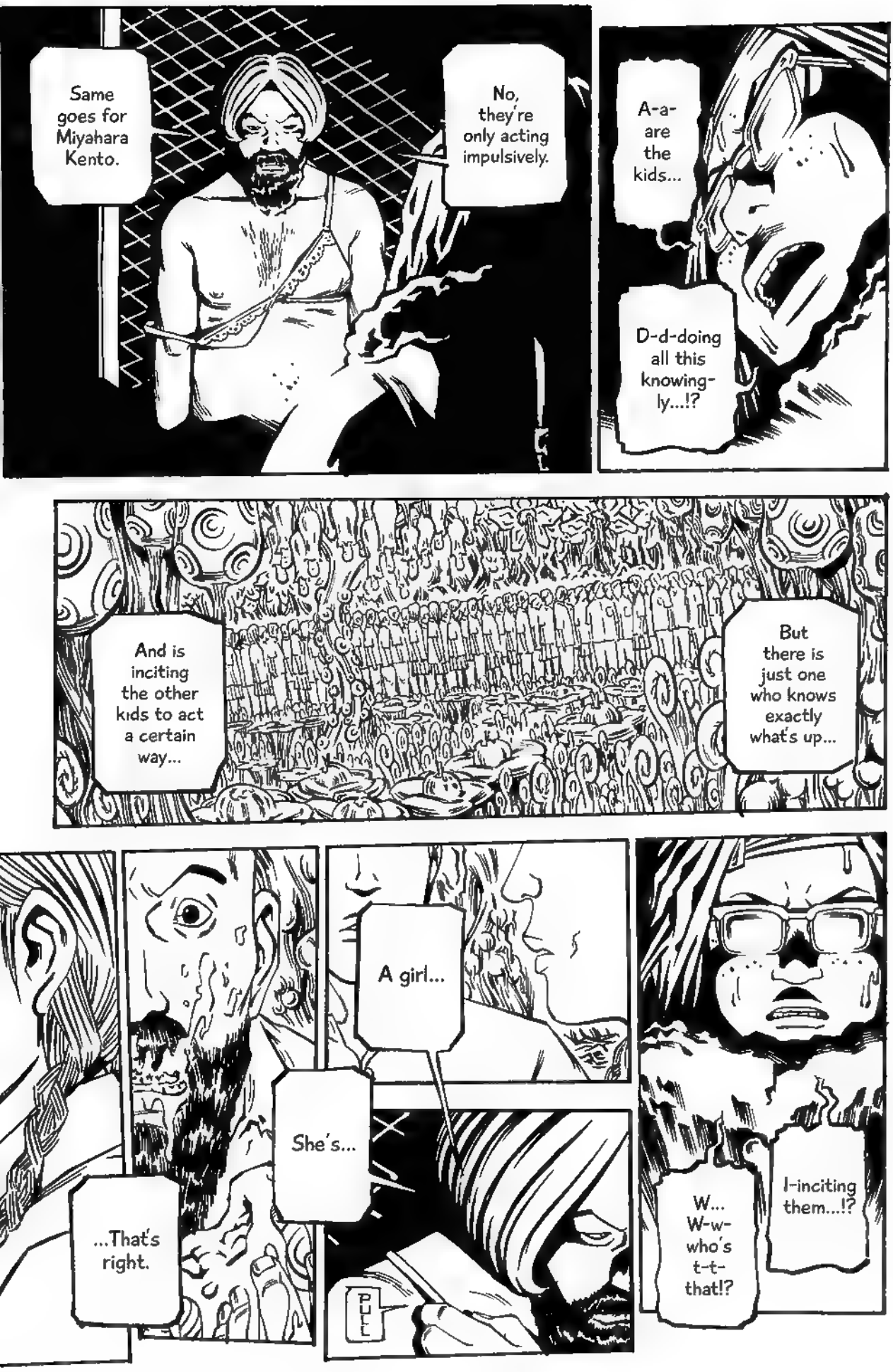

SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
But inevitably, the foreign bodies...
INEXPLICABLE THINGS
ABNORMALITY
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
RRRRRR
NORMALITY

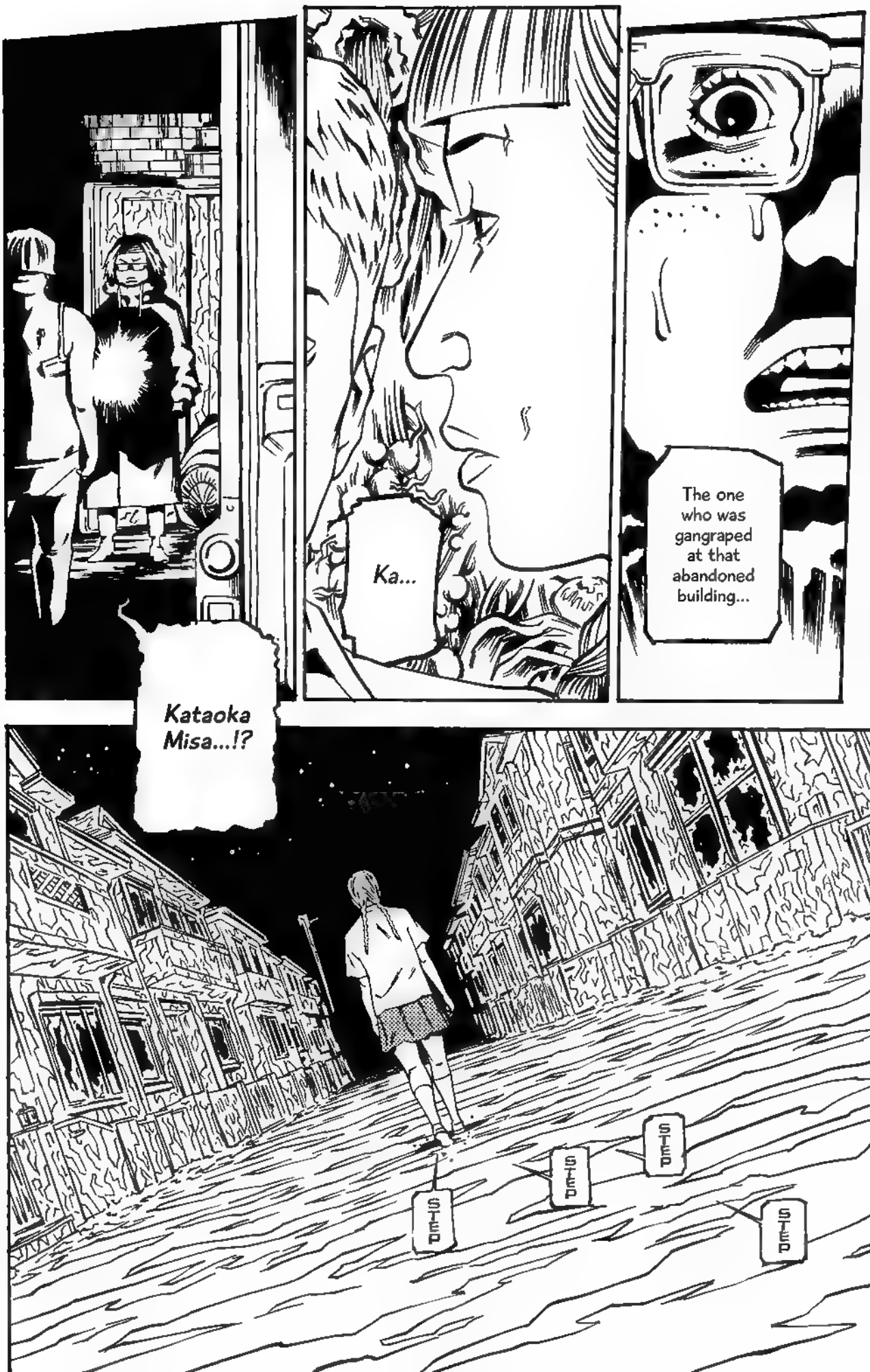

They'll be...
Eliminat-ed...!?
SLUMP
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP

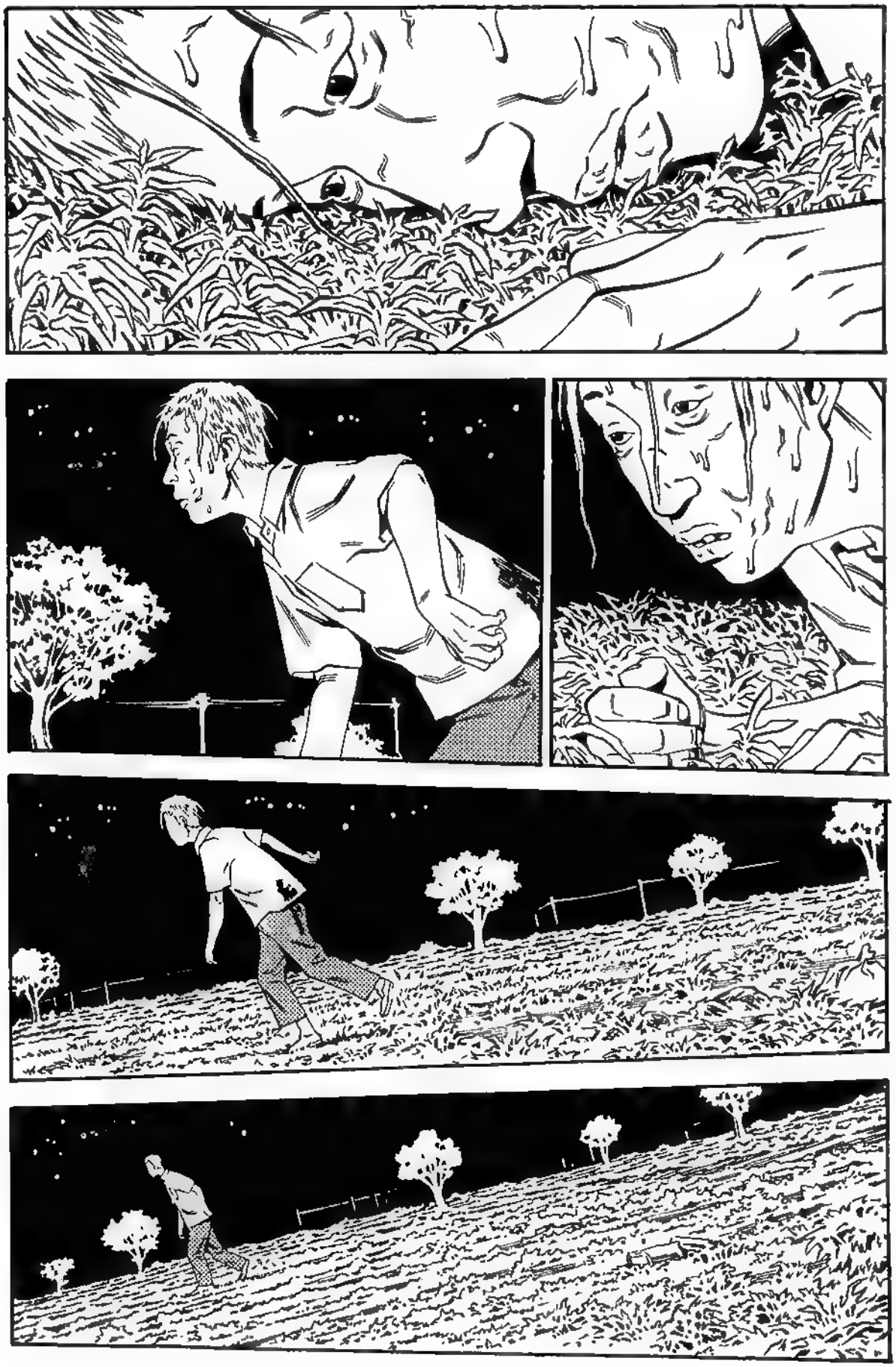
That is to say...
Mizuki and Kento... A happy fabrication and a cruel reality...
The moment when that which must not happen, happens...
When these two things, furthest apart from each other, join together as one...
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
SLUMP

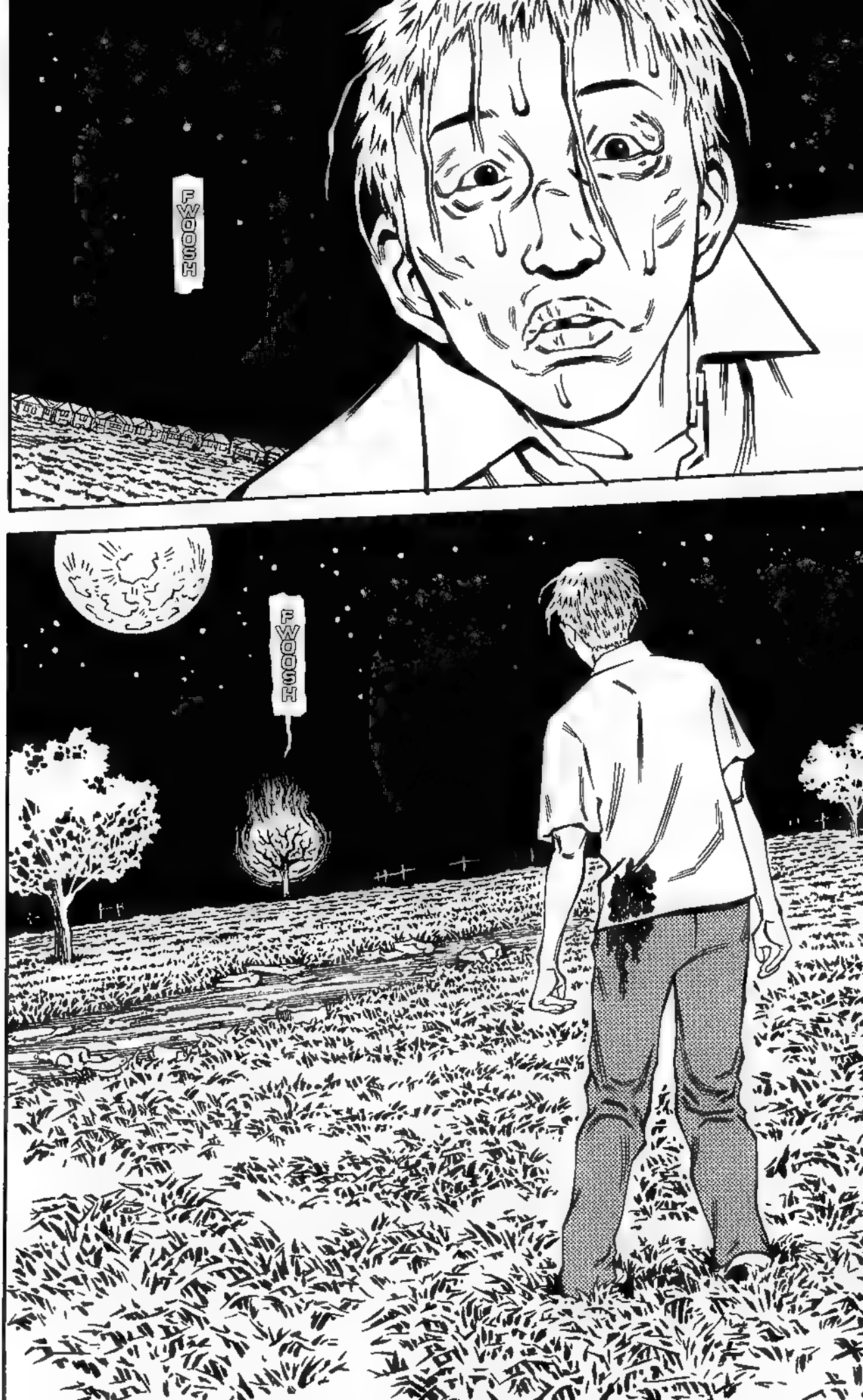

At that very moment,
The whole town of Soil will be eliminated from the face of this world.


STEP
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER

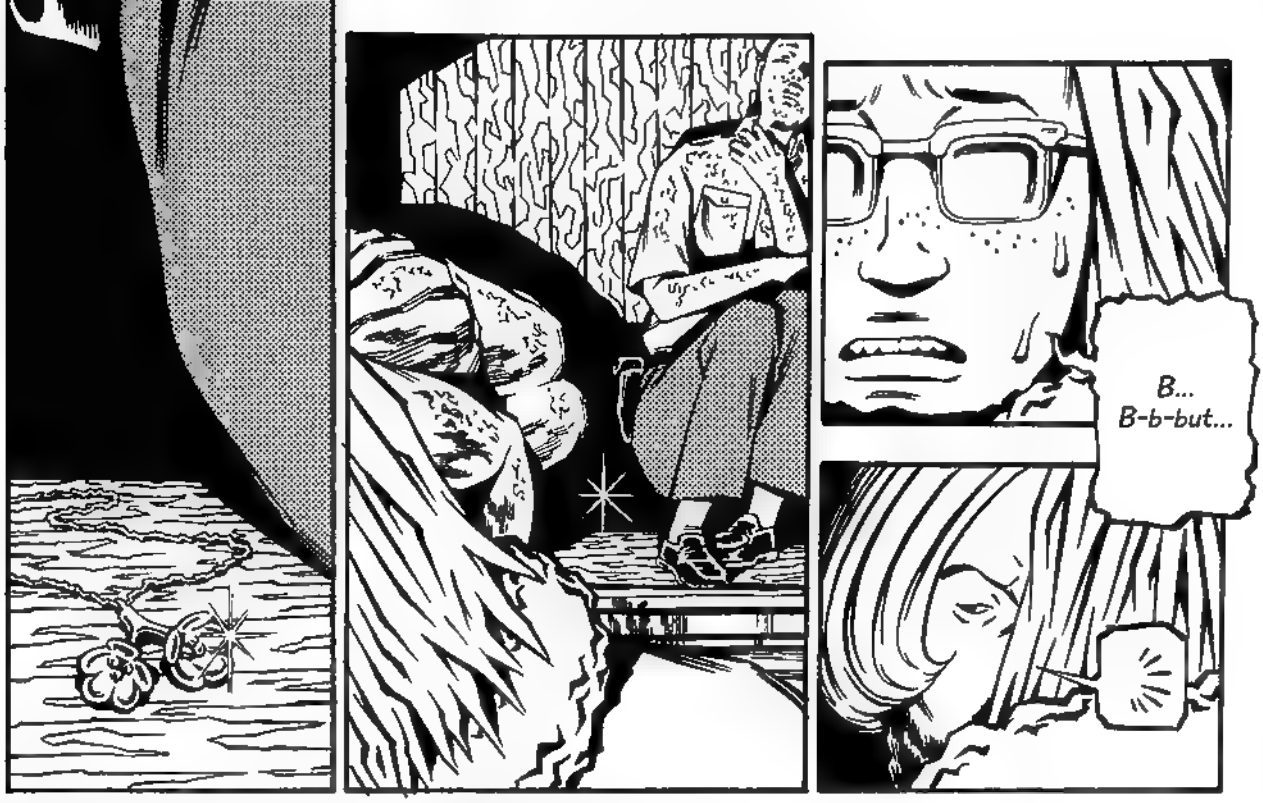

Same goes for Miyahara Kento.
No, they're only acting impulsively.
A-a-are the kids...
D-d-doing all this knowing-ly...!?
And is inciting the other kids to act a certain way...
But there is just one who knows exactly what's up...
A girl...
She's...
...That's right.
PUTT
W... W-w-who's t-t-that!?
I-inciting them...!?


The one who was gangraped at that abandoned building...
Ka...
Kataoka Misa...!?
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP

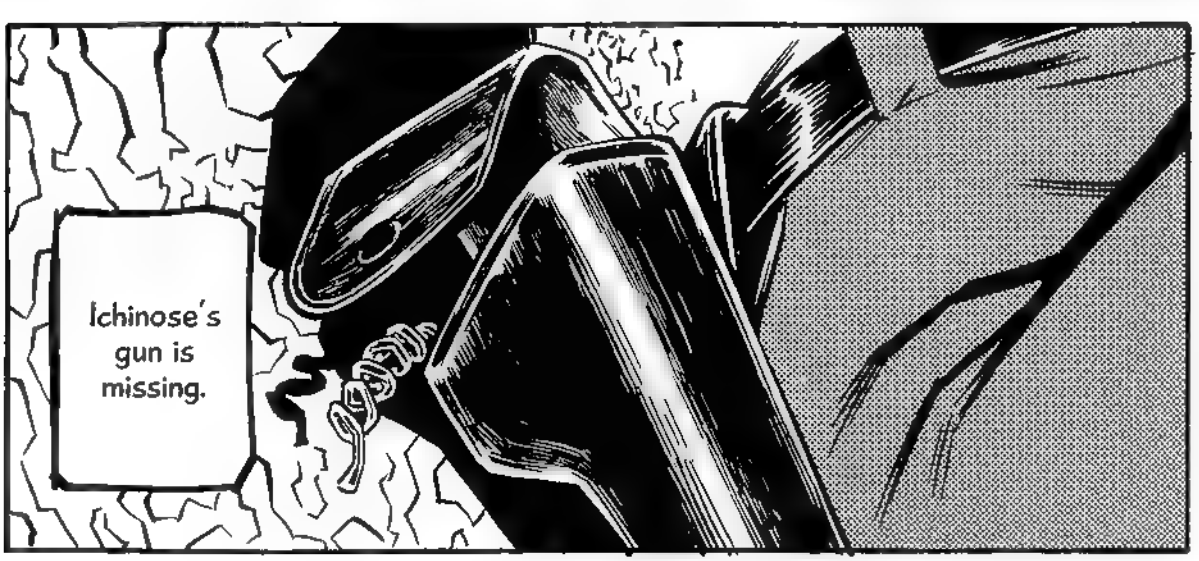



FWOOSH
FWOOSH

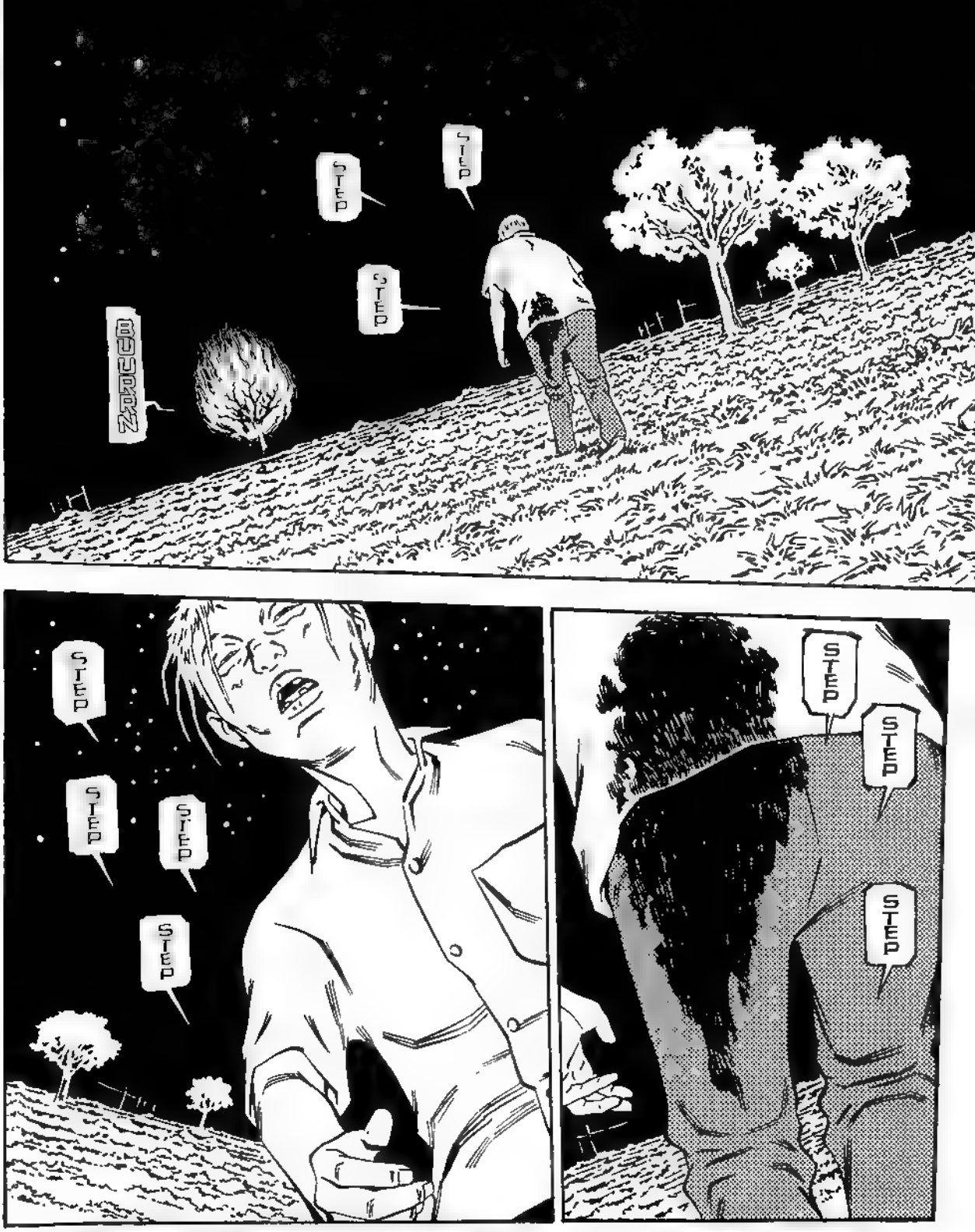
SLURP
S...
Soil will be eradicated...!?
There's only one job for a detective to do.
Uncover the "core" of this case.
B... B-b-but then...
H-h-how do we g-go about stopping it...!?


B...
B-b-but...

Huh?
Hey.

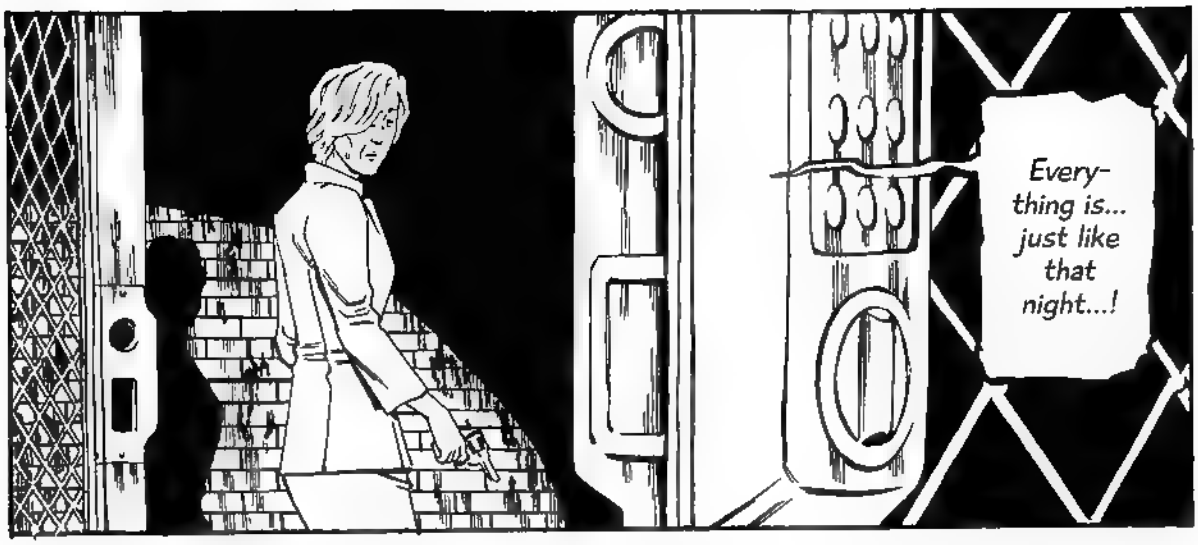

Ichinose's gun is missing.

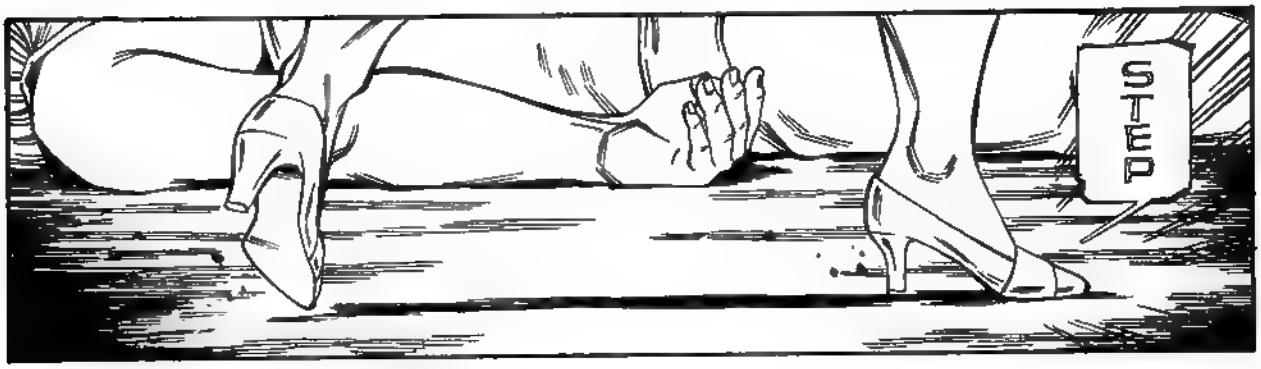
BANG!
THUD
Eek...!?
Gahh-
BLOCK 3-32

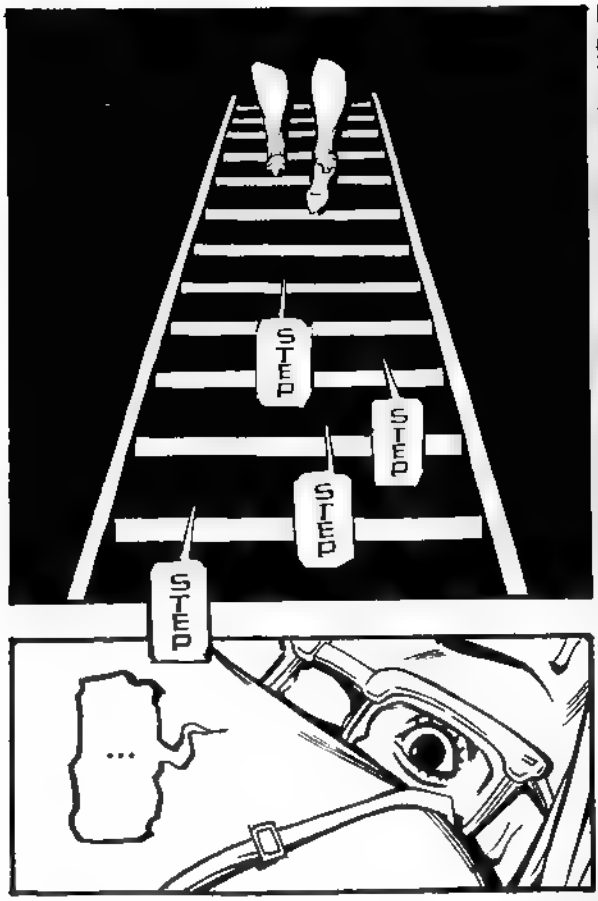


[That Night]

STEP
STEP
STEP
Youhei...?
STEP
STEP
Youhei...?
STEP
M... Ms. Kosa-ka...!?
Youhei...!?
...It's the same as that night.

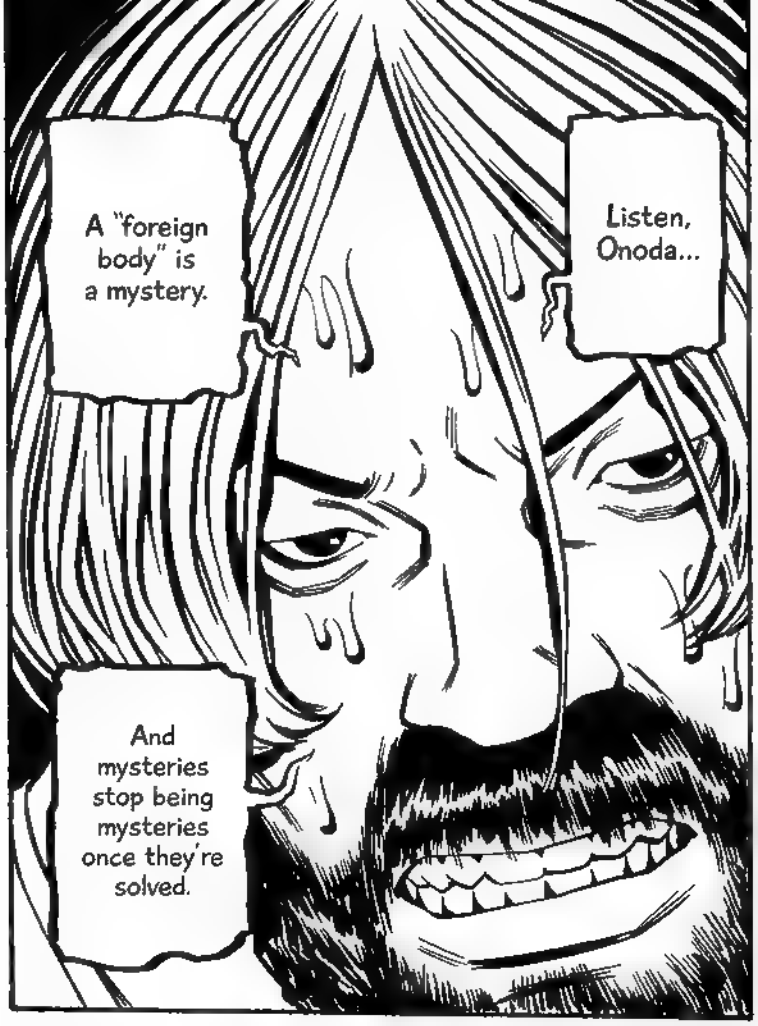

Every-
thing is...
just like
that
night...!


STEP


STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
...

STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP

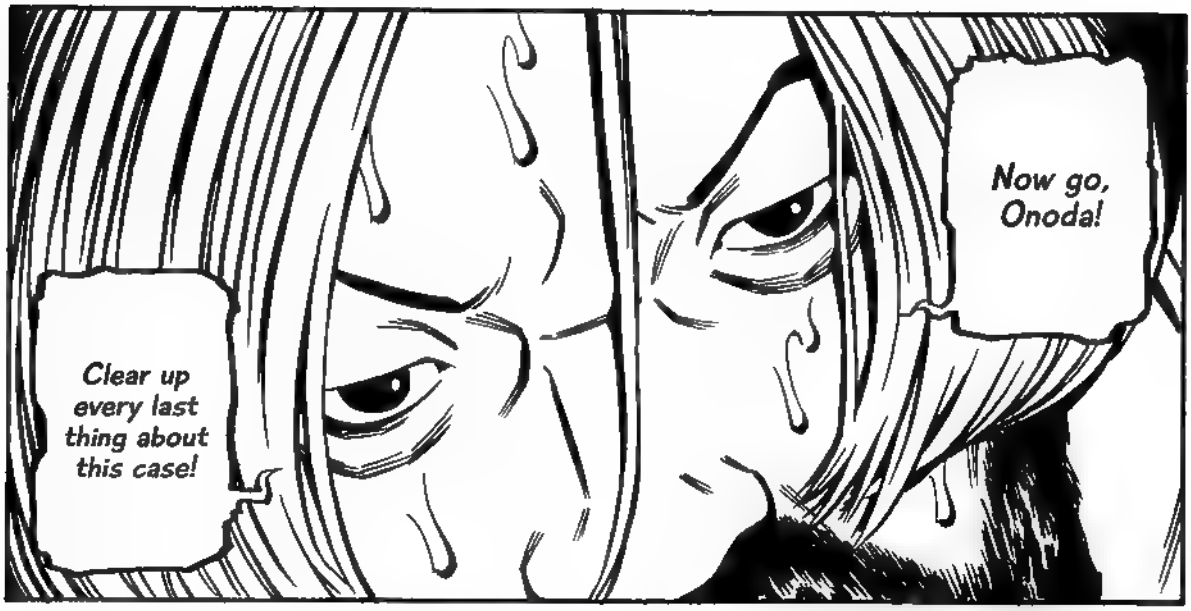
S-s-s-s-s...
S-s-s-sergeant Yokoi!
Aghhh...
What, are you on your fucking period or something!?
Worried about leaking if you run? Well!?
Hurry up and chase after her, you idiot!
T... T-T-THAT'S SEXUAL HARASSMENT!
B... b-b-but...
I strayed too far from "reality"...
...This is how "foreign bodies" are eradicated.


Listen, Onoda...
A "foreign body" is a mystery.
And mysteries stop being mysteries once they're solved.

W... W-w-what should I do, sir...!?
I... I've never accomplished anything as a detective...
W-w-what can a f... failure like me do now...?

But you're gonna solve it...
...

It's managed to stay hidden... and remain unsolved as a mystery
Within this town... Is a foreign body that has yet to be eradicated...


Now go, Onoda!
Clear up every last thing about this case!

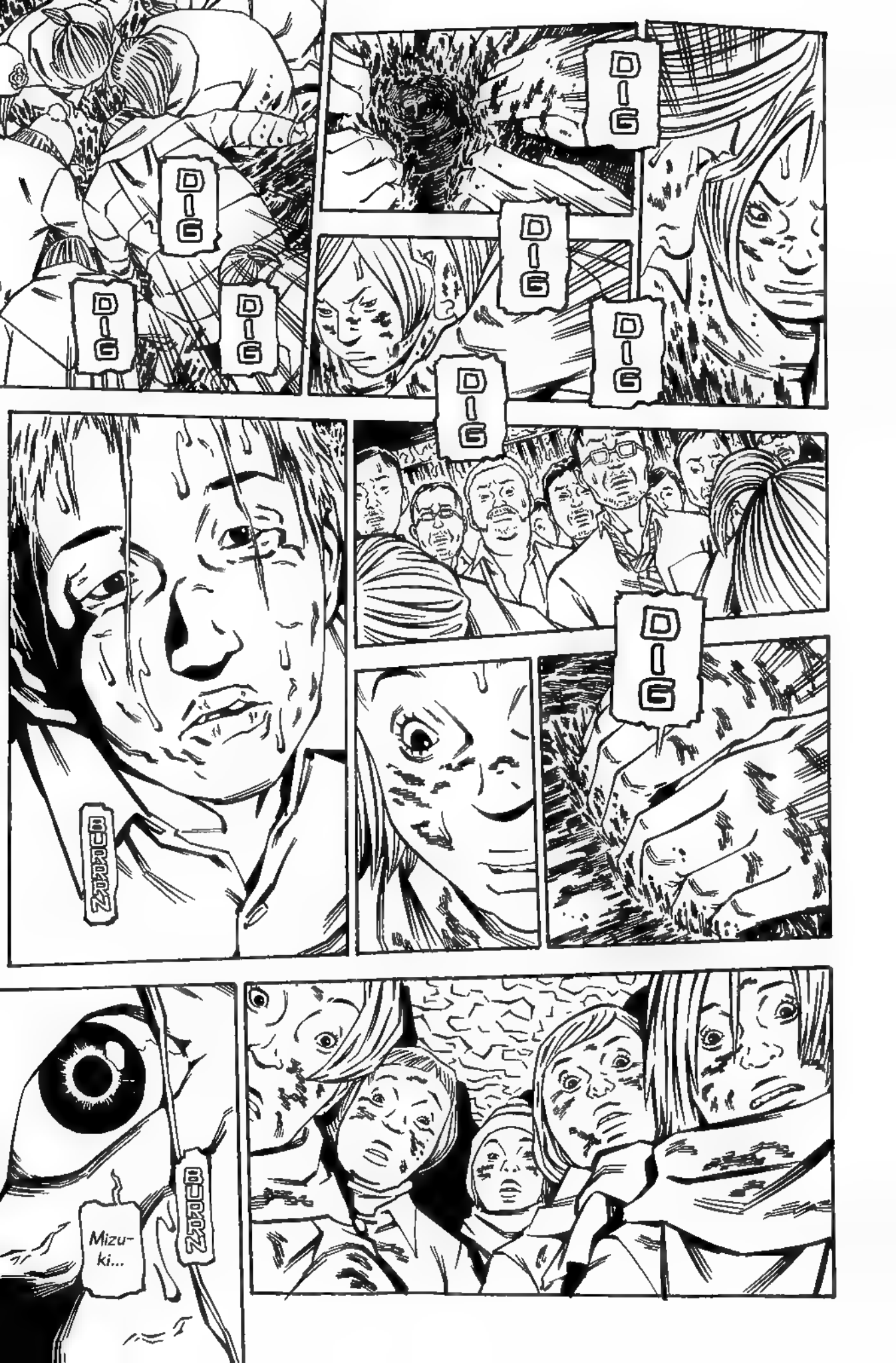
SALUTE!

YES, SIR!
Y-Y-Y...

TATATA...
TATATA
DASH
Ugh...
Plop...
Aghh...
TURN
What a pain...

BURRRNN
NOOO! IT'S ONLY JUST MANAGED TO SPROUT!
ONCE THE FLOWER BLOOMS, THE SUZU-SHIROS WILL COME BACK!
W-WHAT!? WHY DID THE LIGHTS GO OFF!?
THE SPROUT IS GOING TO SHRIVEL UP AND DIE AT THIS RATE!
WE HAVE TO RUN! NOW!
THERE'S SOMETHING NOT RIGHT WITH THIS TOWN!
WE'VE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE AT ONCE!

BUDDDDDDZ
POP
POP
POP
POP
DASH
Hey!
DIG
DIG
DIG


DIG
DIG
DIG
DIG
DIG
DIG
DIG
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
Mizu-
ki...

BURRNNN

SPROUT

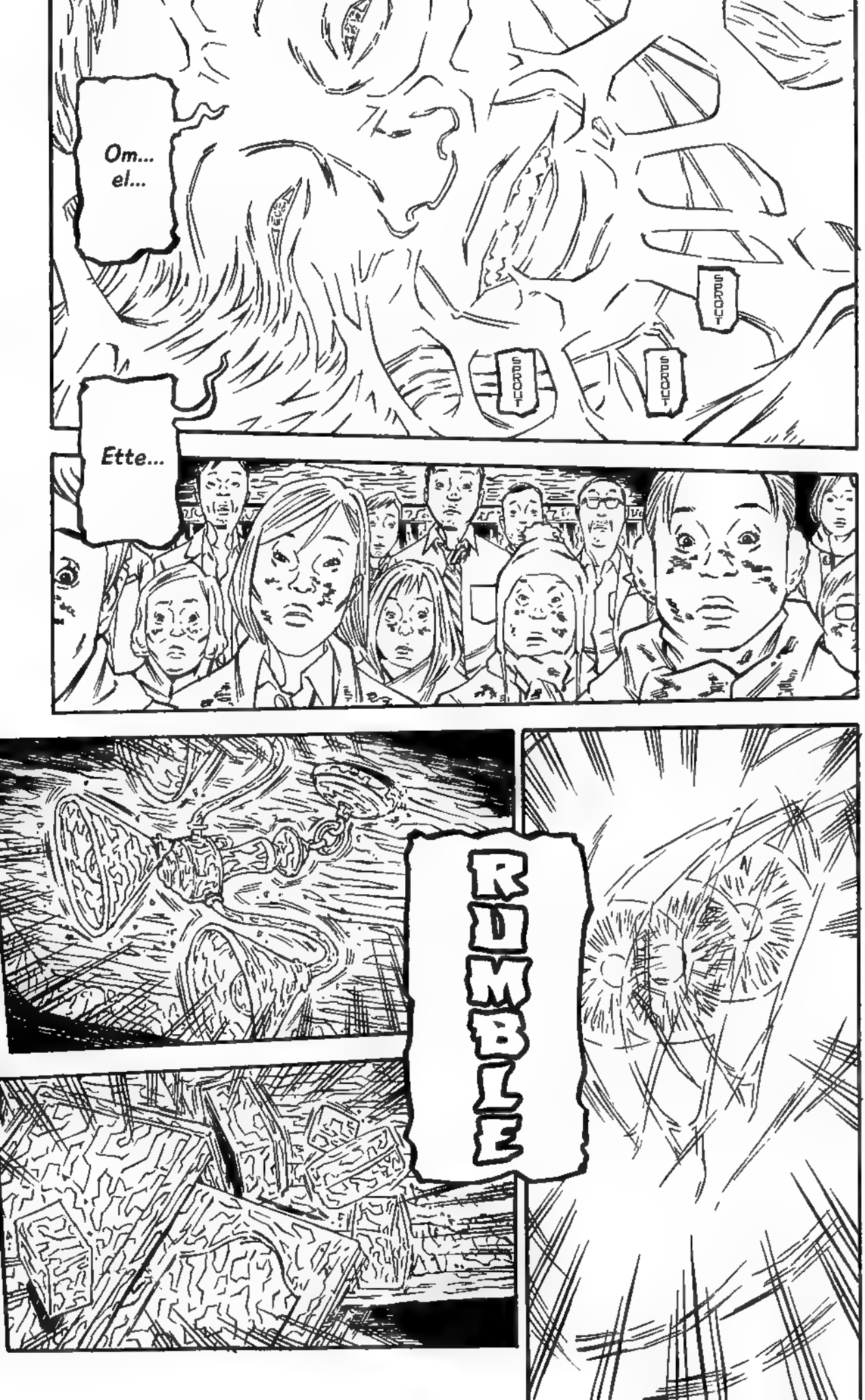
SPROUT

SPROUT

SPROUT

SPROUT

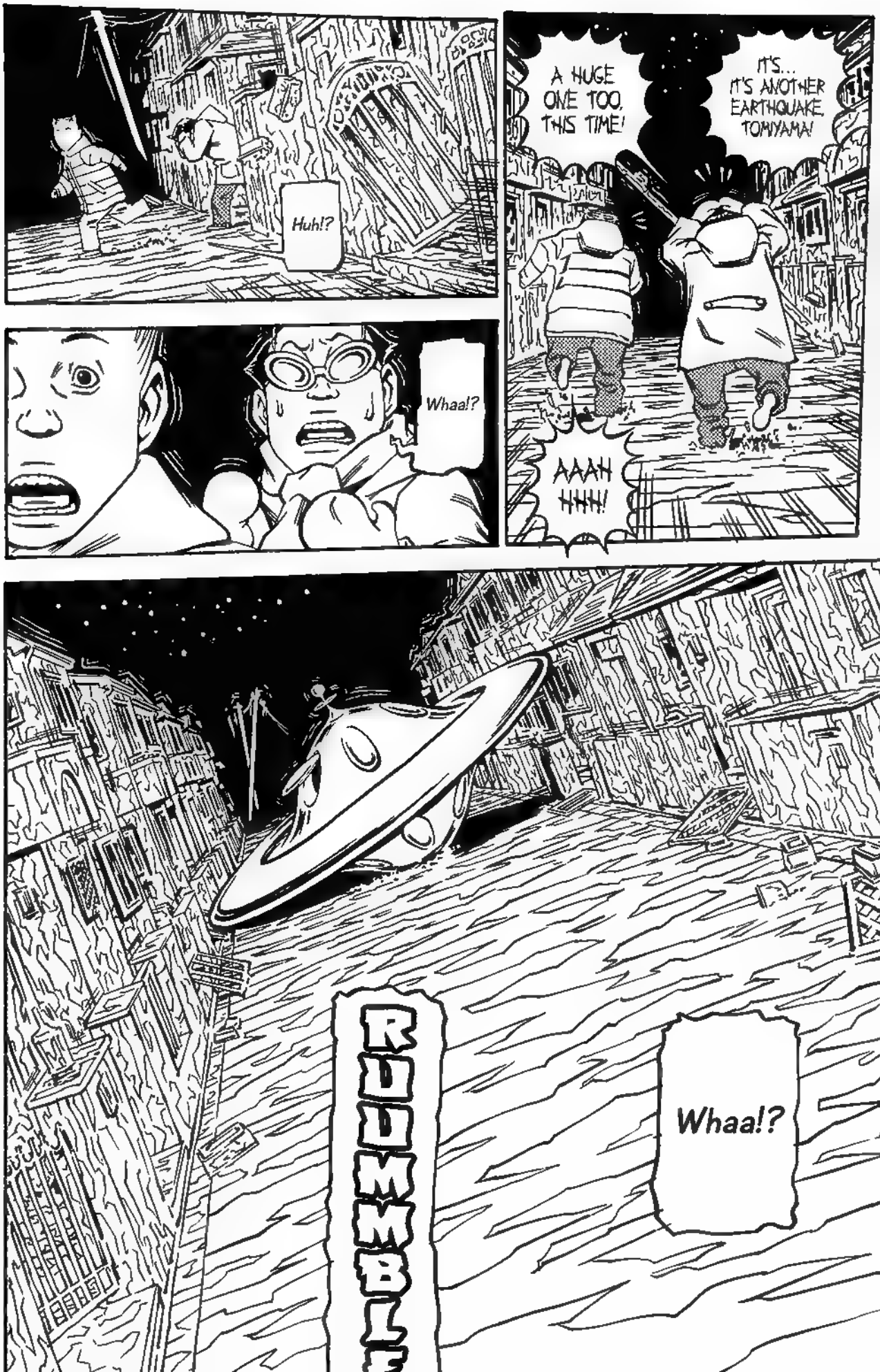
SPROUT


Om...
el...
SPROUT
SPROUT
SPROUT
Ette...
RUMBLE

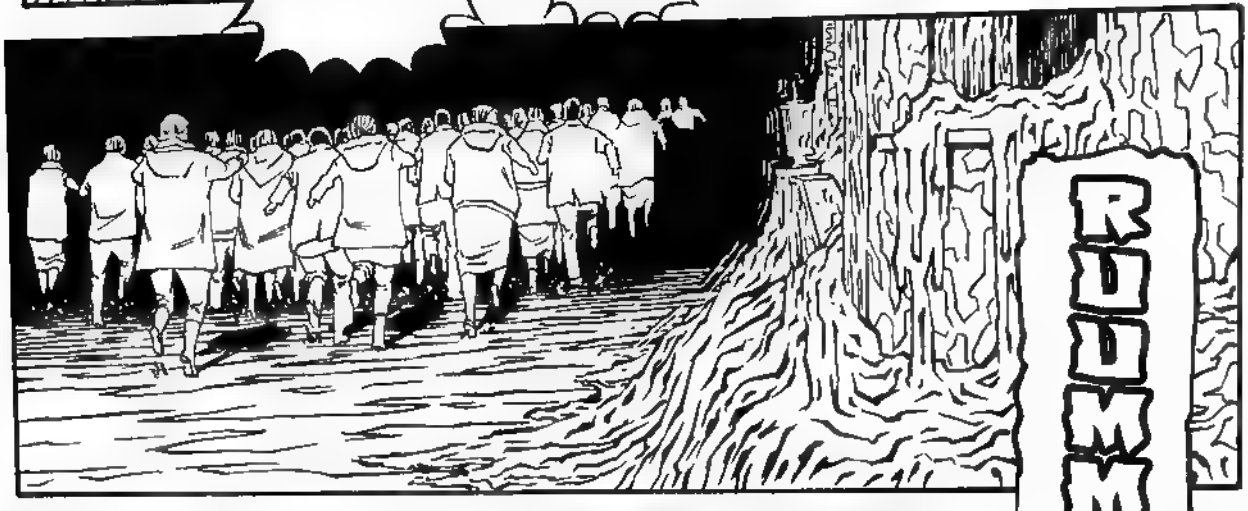
AGHHHHHHHHH!

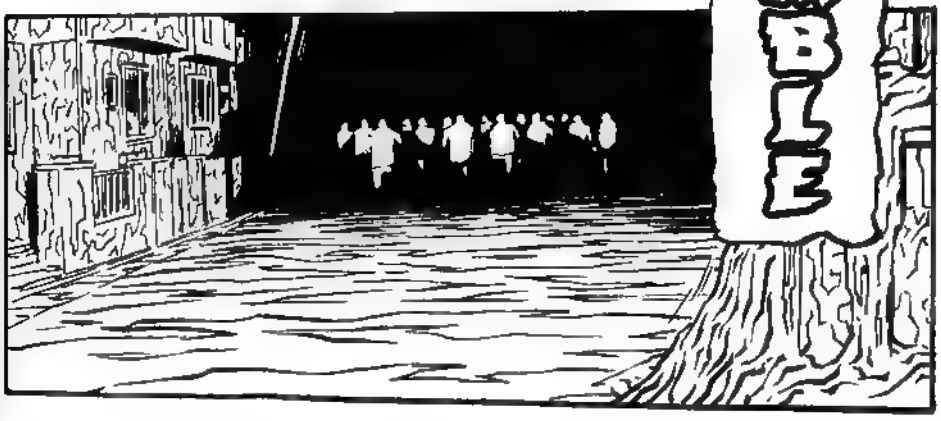
RUMMBLE

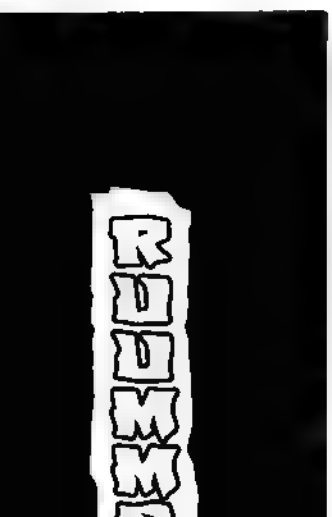
RUMMBLE
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CRASH
CRASH
AGHHH!

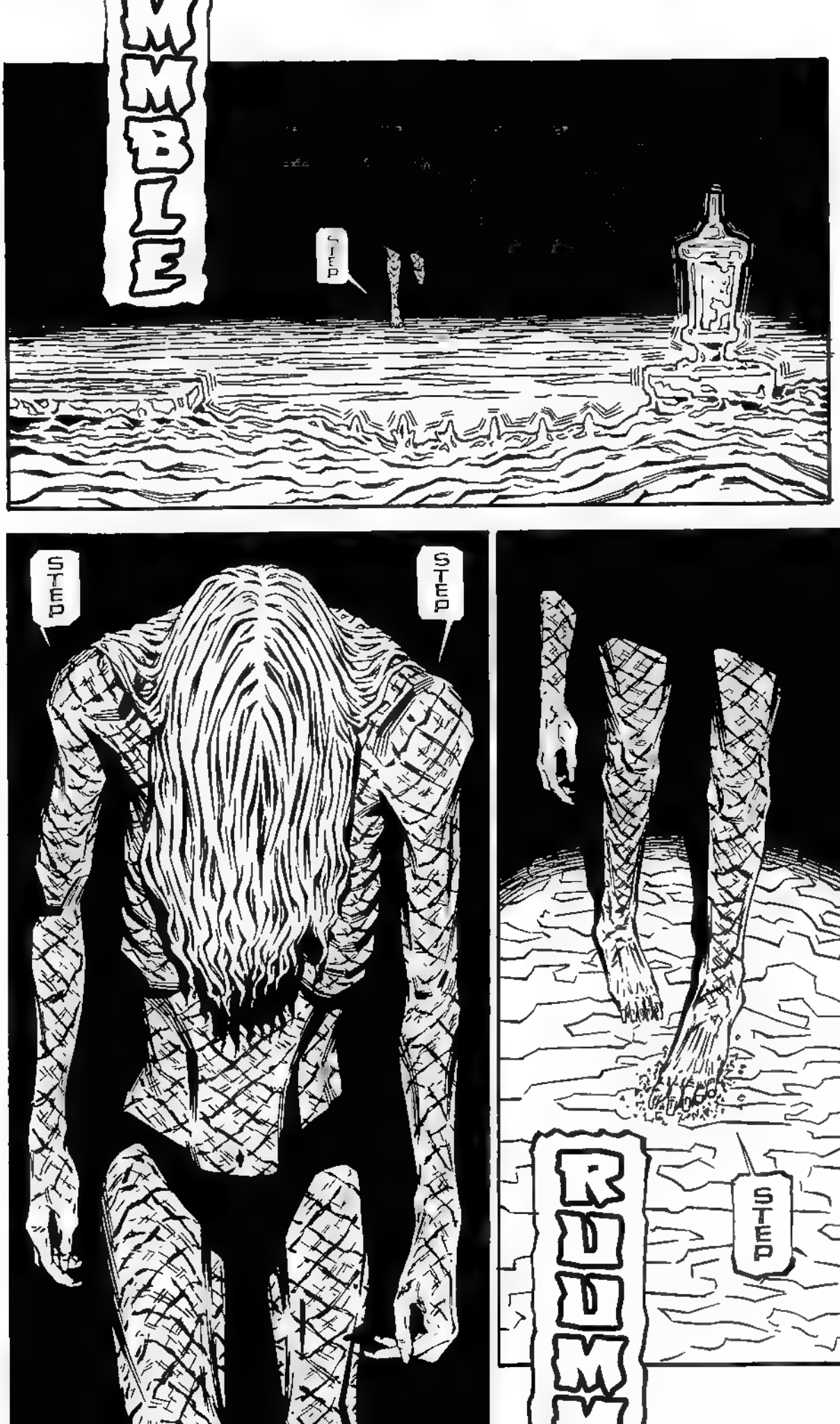

Huh!?
A HUGE ONE TOO, THIS TIME!
IT'S... IT'S ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE, TOMIYAMA!
AAAH HHH!
Whaa!?
RUMMBLE
Whaa!?

RUMMBLE
KYAA AAAA!
AGHH HHH!
KYAA AAAA!
GAHH HHH!

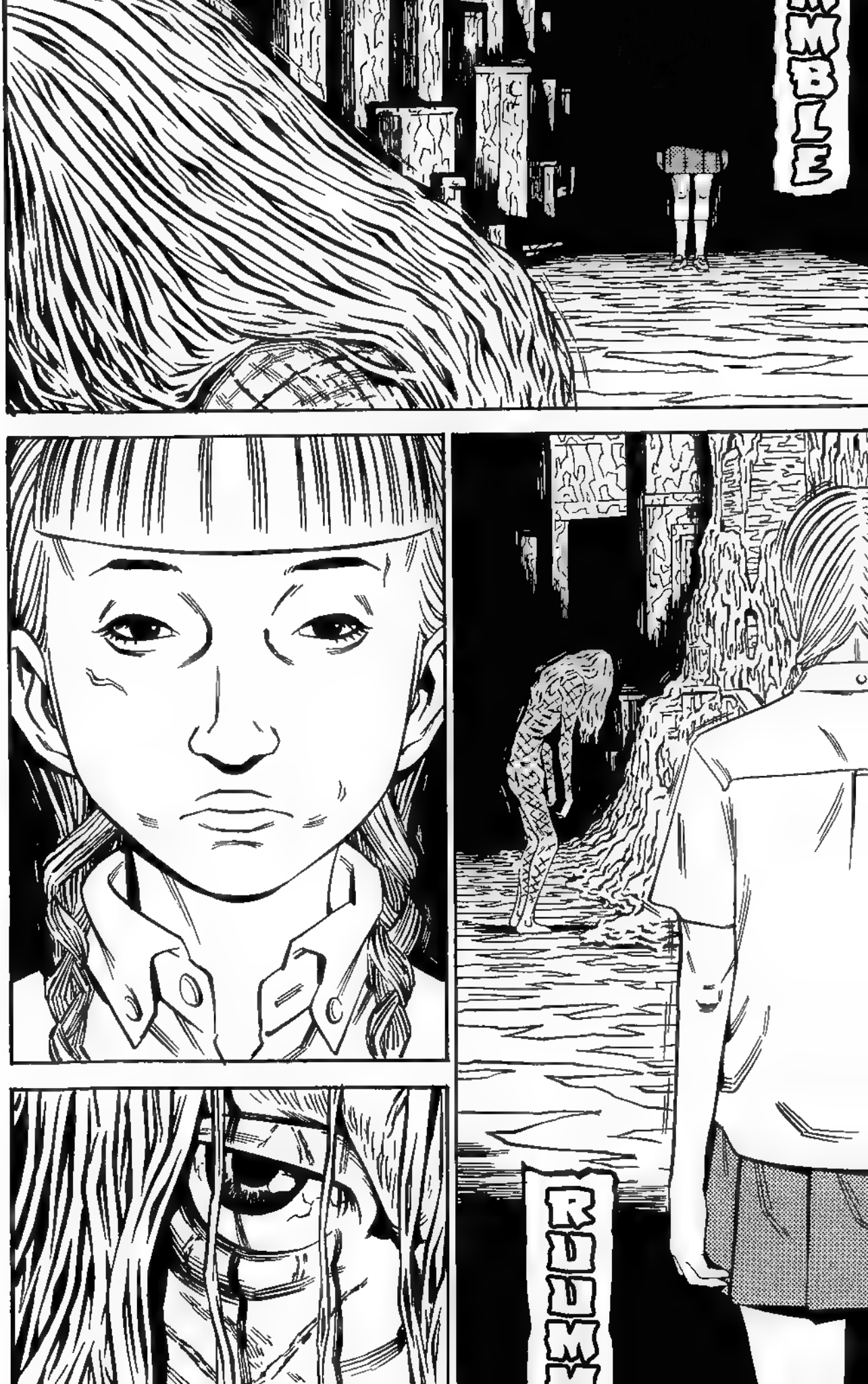

RUMMBLE


RUMMBLE


RUMMBLE

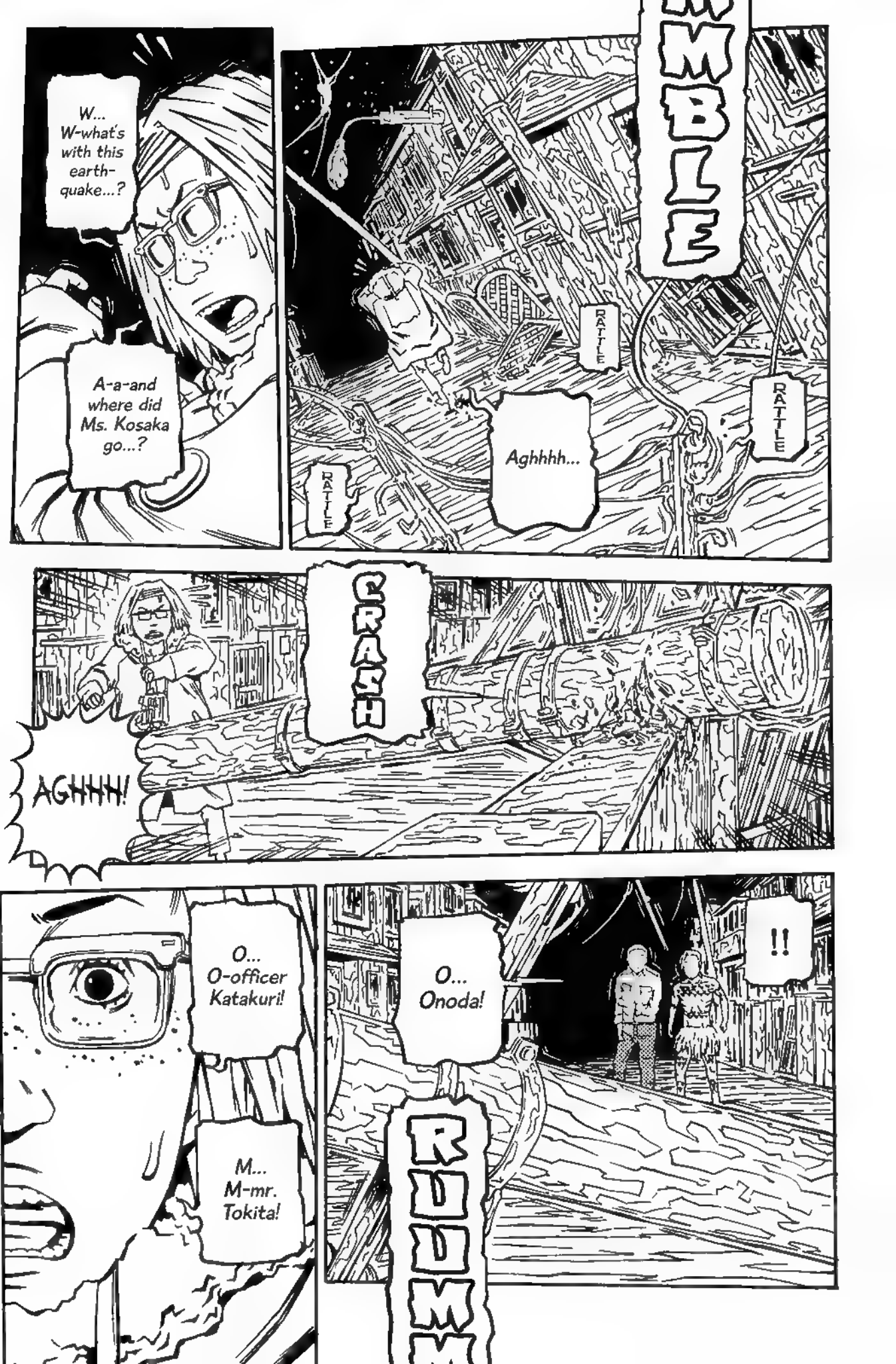

MMBLE
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
RUMM

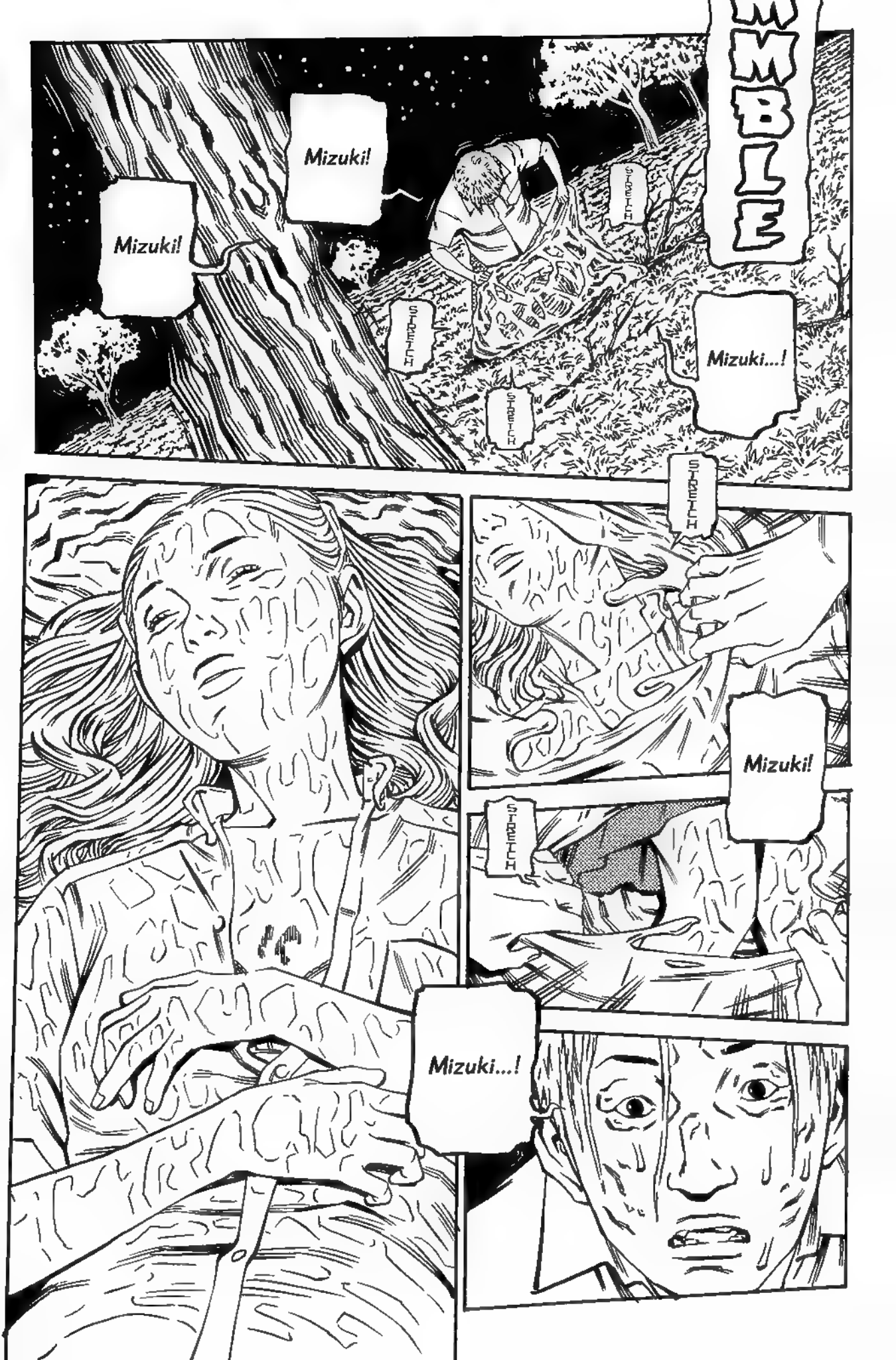
RUMBLE

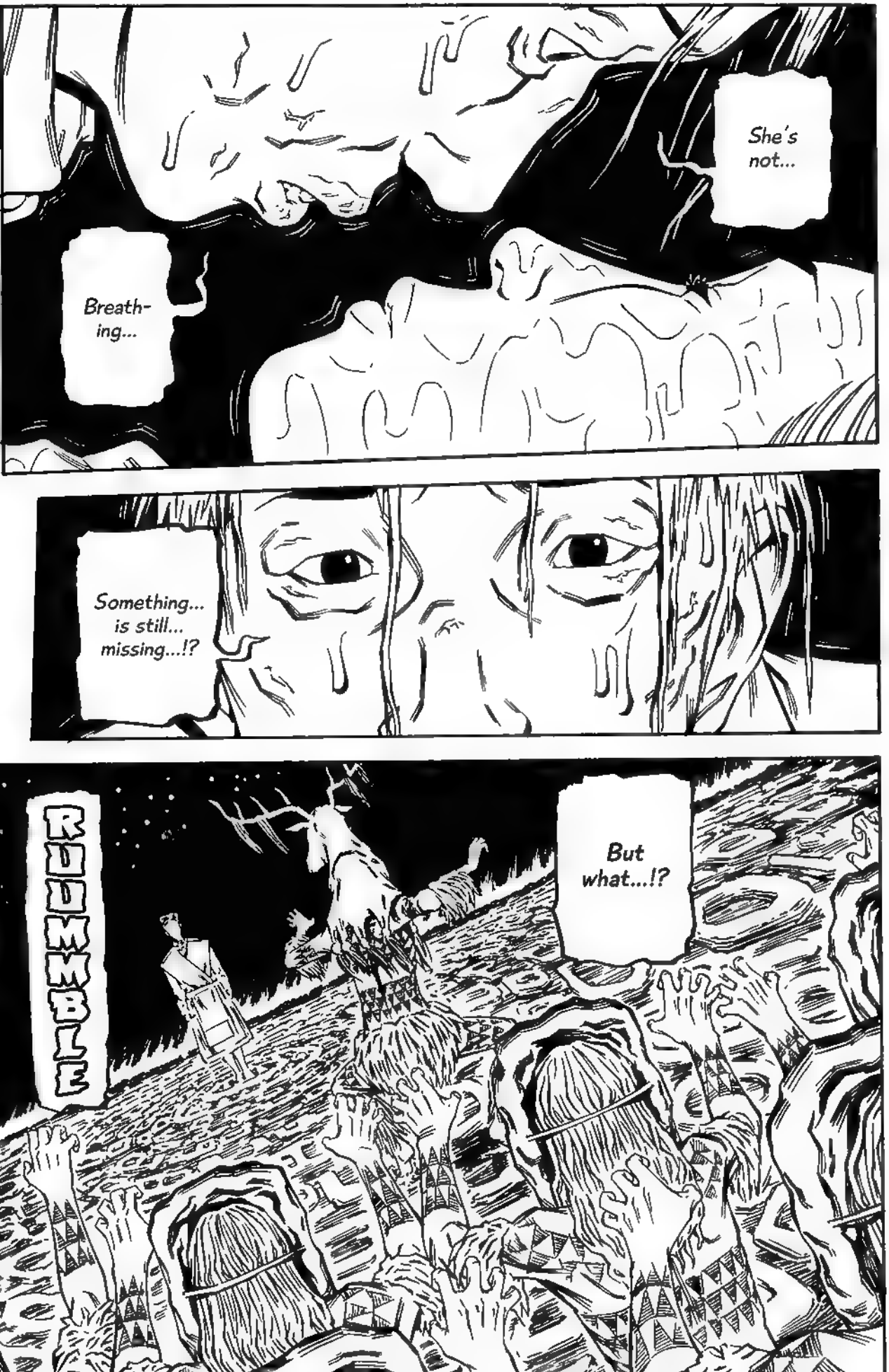

RUMBLE
RUMBLE

RUMBLE
RUMMB

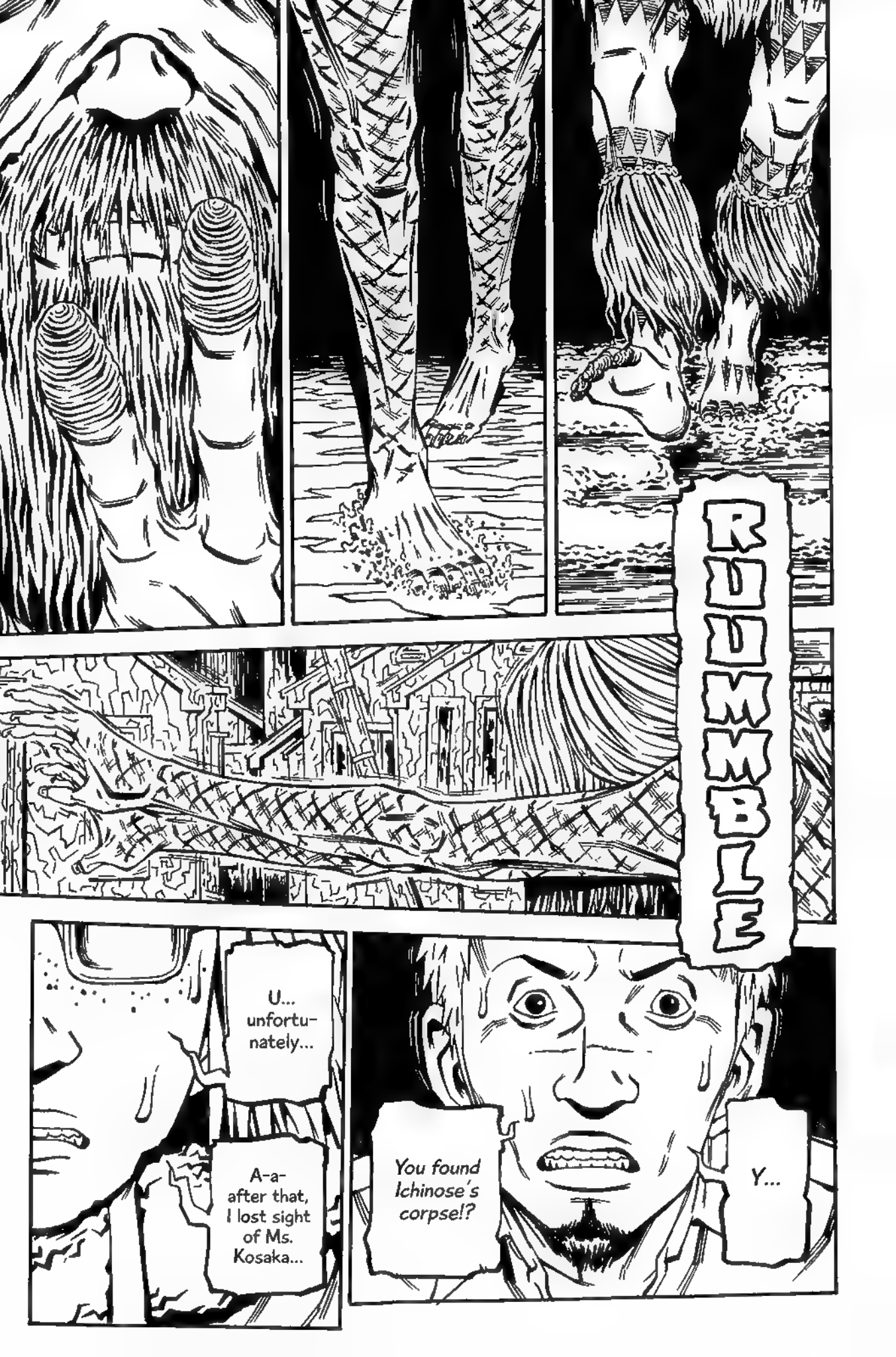
THUD!
RUMBLE


W... W-what's with this earth-quake...?
A-a-and where did Ms. Kosaka go...?
RUMBLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
Aghhhh...
CRASH
AGHHH!
O... O-officer Katakuri!
M... M-mr. Tokita!
O... Onoda!
!!
RUMM


MBLE
Mizuki!
Mizuki!
STRETCH
STRETCH
STRETCH
Mizuki...!
STRETCH
Mizuki!
STRETCH
Mizuki...!


She's not...
Breath-ing...
Something... is still... missing...!?
RUMMBLE
But what...!?

RUMMBLE
RUMMBLE
BLOCK 3-33
RUMMBLE

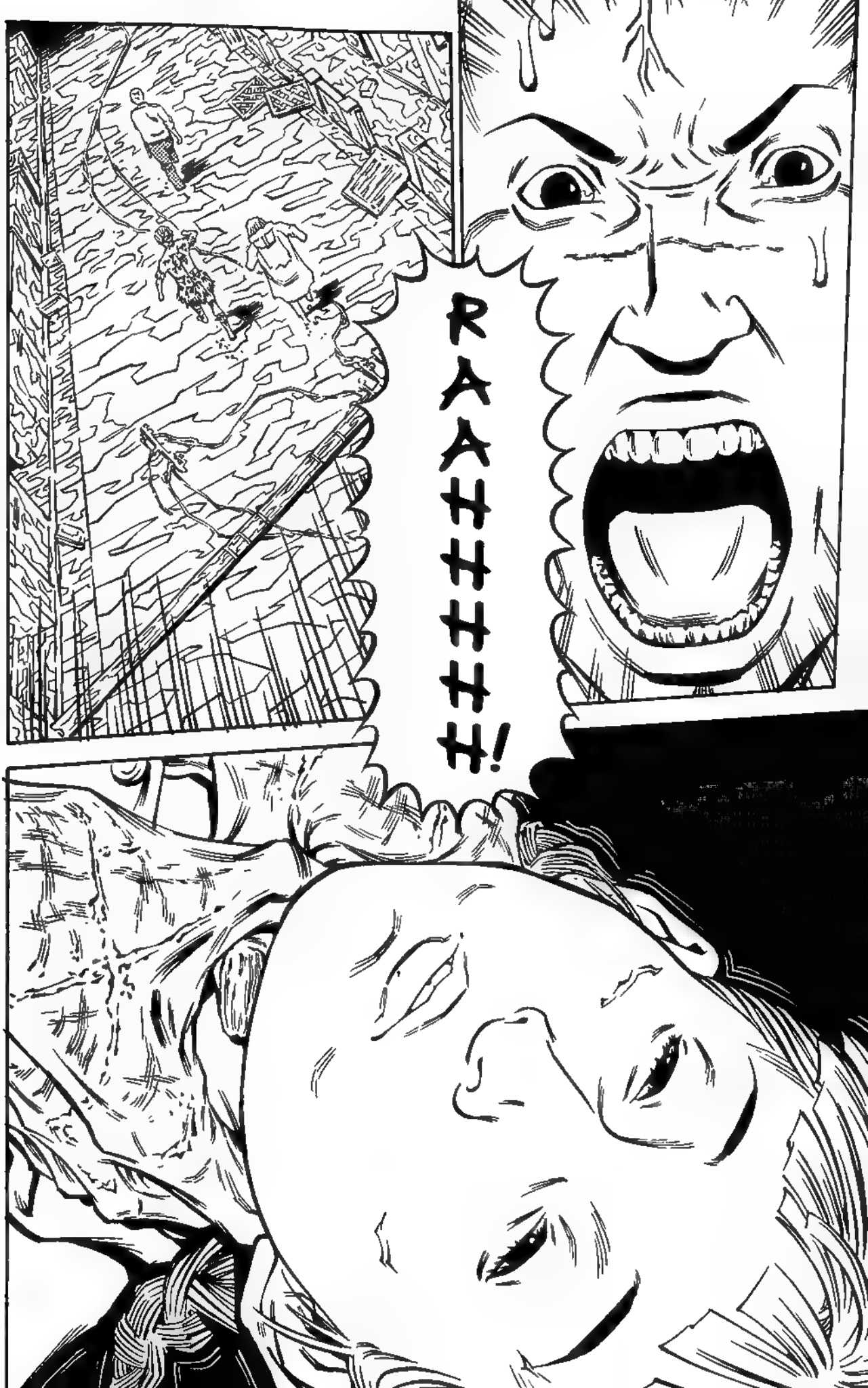

RUMMBLE
Y...
You found Ichinose's corpse!?
U... unfortu-nately...
A-a-after that, I lost sight of Ms. Kosaka...

IMMBLE
T-the sacrifice is K-k-k...
Yes... But we also don't know her current where-abouts...
Kataoka Misa...!?
K... Kataoka Misa...
A-and caused things to turn out this way...
She's the one... who incited the other kids...

I... If the sacrifice herself...
Is willingly s-seeking to give up her life...
Could she then be doing it as an act of revenge upon the town...!?

RUMMBLE
S... Soil itself is a foreign body...!?
And it'll be removed from this world...!?
W... what were all the things that happened back then...?
Back at that night...
...
HAA
I-if this... is a reenactment of the night of the blackout...
K-k-kataoka Misa must still... b-b-be out trying to fill some missing component...

Could Ichinose...
Have died back then...!?
Back during that night... he said he saw a fish-scaled man...
In front of the Suzushiros' house...!
T... Then Ms. Kosaka must be headed there too right now!


RAAHHHHH!

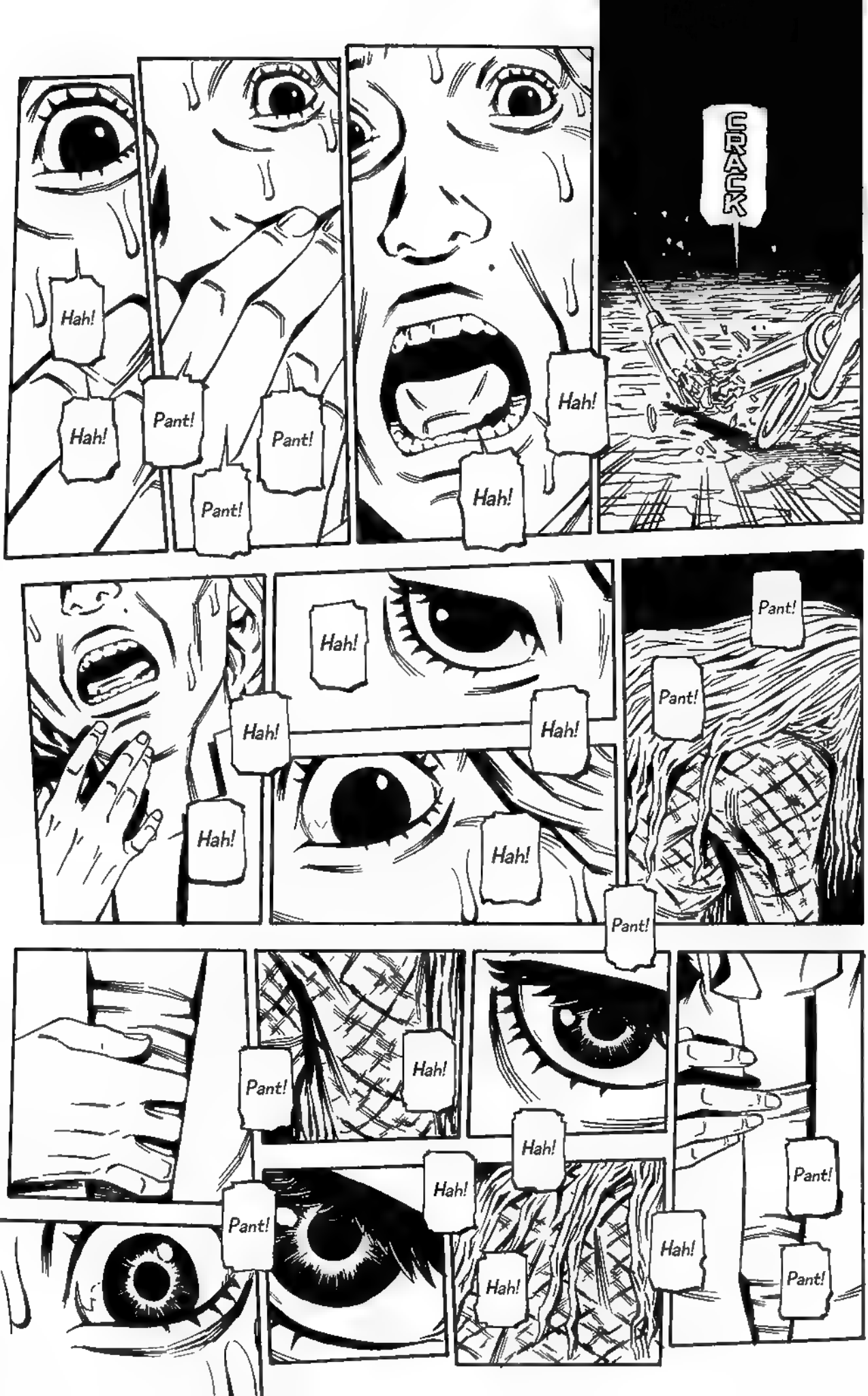
Nn...
RUMBLE
Nngh...
Nnn...
Nnn...
Nnaa
agh...
[Why]

-INJECT

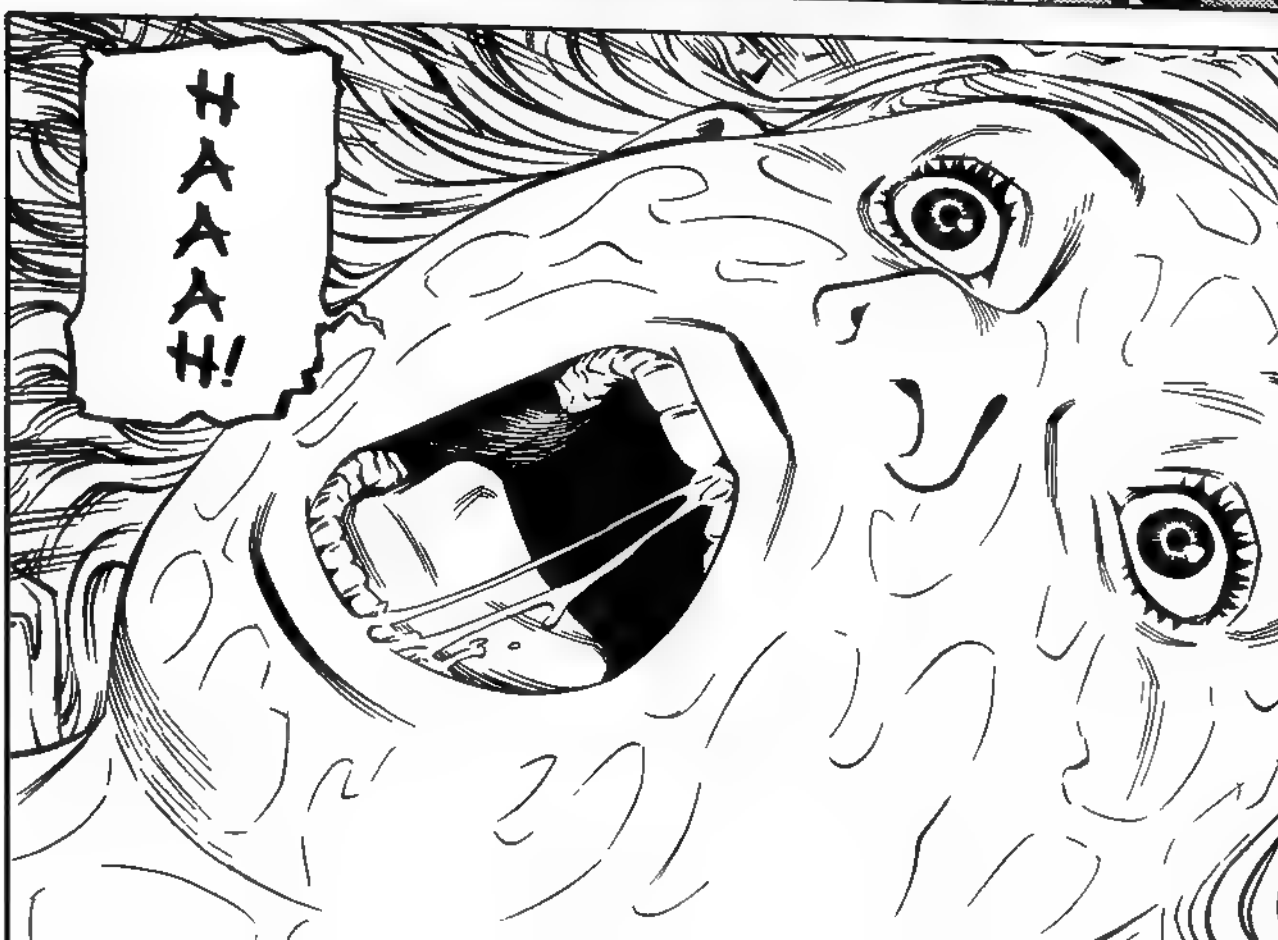
THUD

Huff
Huff
Cough!
Cough!
Gahhh!
...
Pant
Pant
Pant
Pant
Pant
Pant

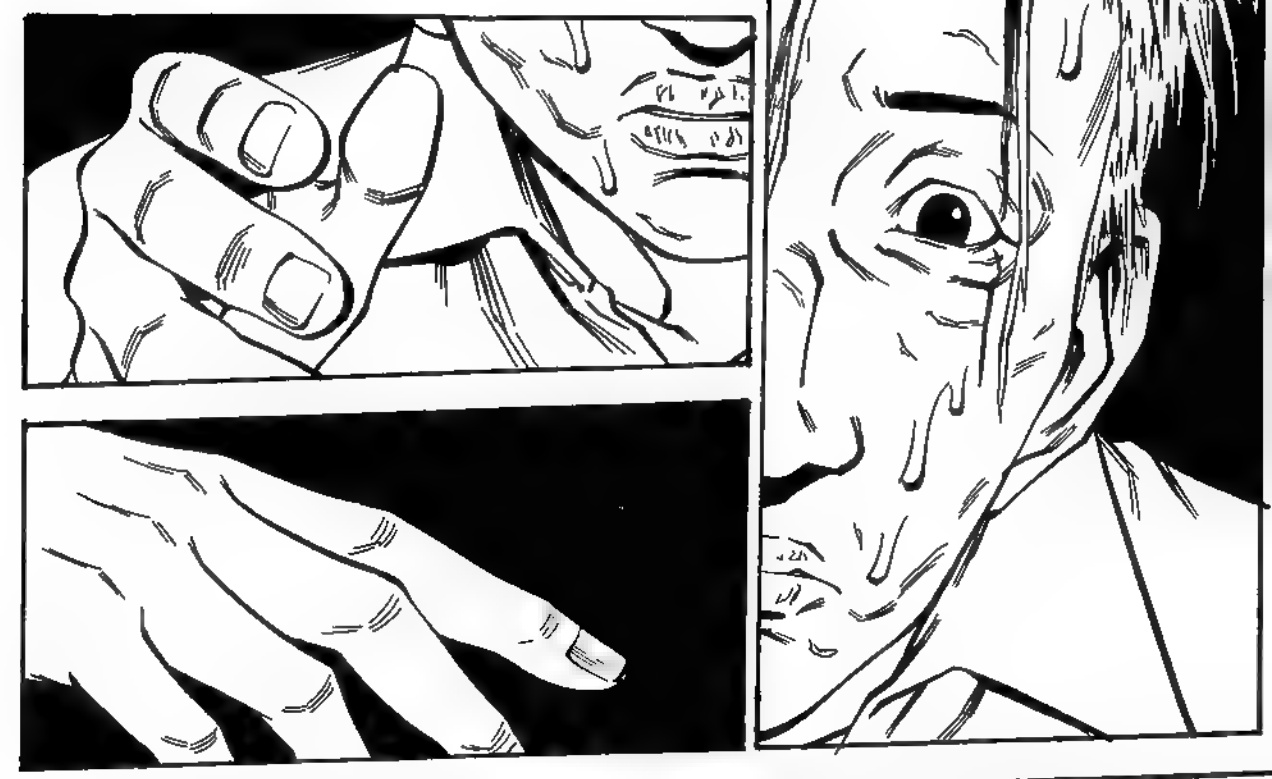
Huff
Kataoka...
Huff
Huff
Huff
Thank god you're f...
Huff
Huff
Your secret...
Huff
Huff
Huff
Will be found out... by every-one...


Hah!
Hah!
Pant!
Pant!
Pant!
Hah!
CRACK
Hah!
Hah!
Hah!
Hah!
Hah!
Pant!
Pant!
Pant!
Pant!
Pant!
Hah!
Hah!
Hah!
Hah!
Pant!
Hah!
Pant!
Hah!
Pant!

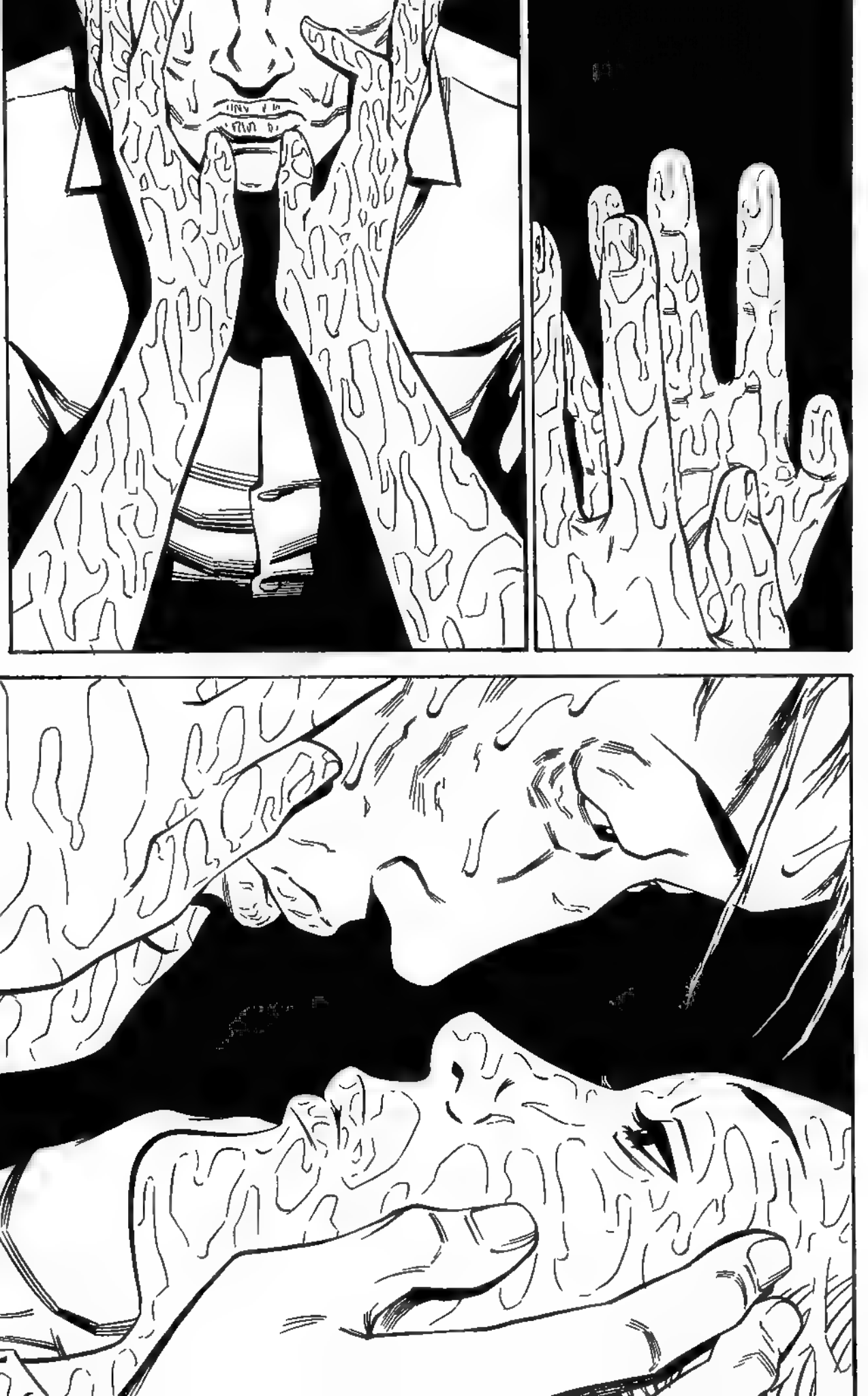
BANG!


HAAAH!

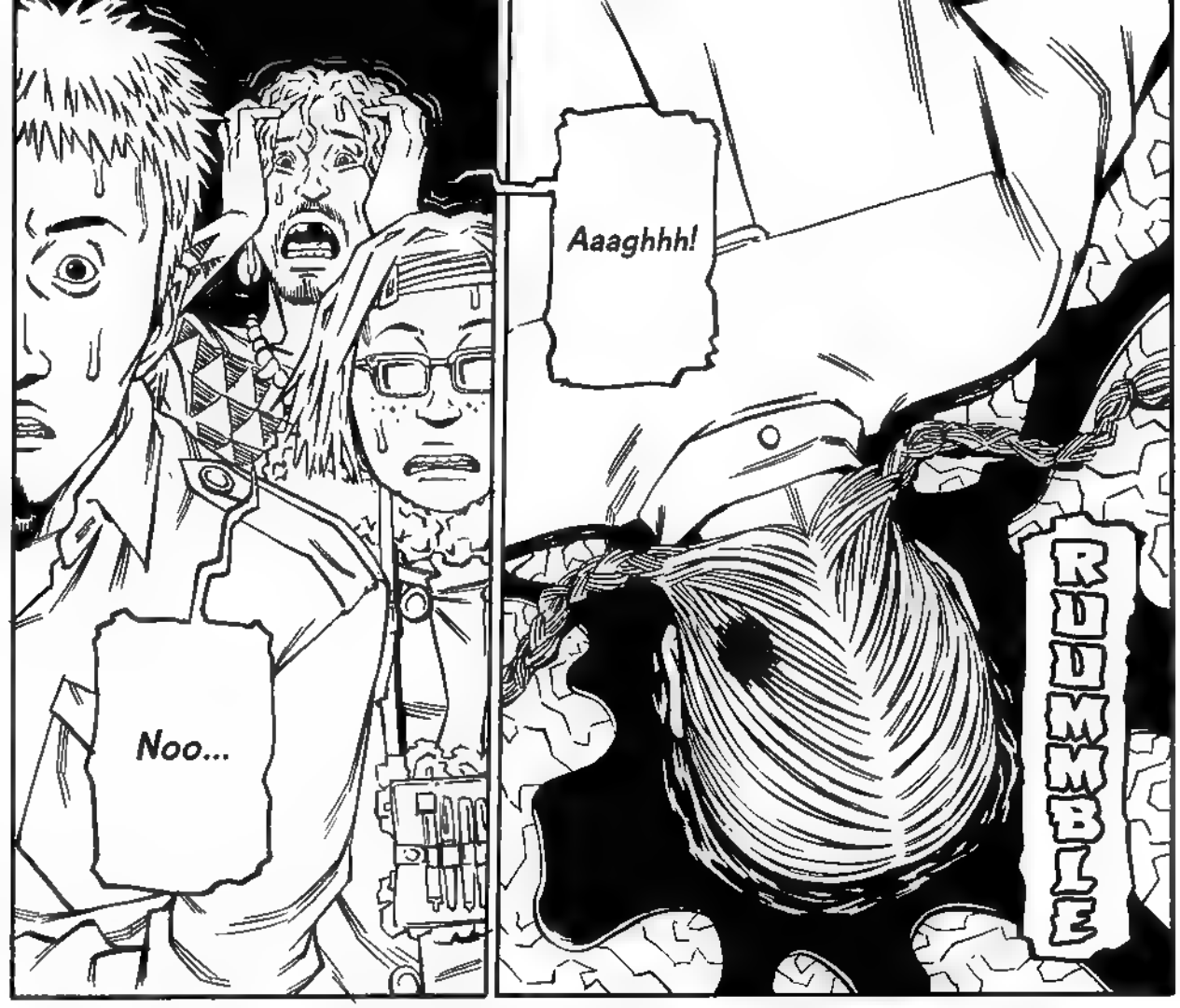
...
Hah
Hah
Hah
Hah
Hah
Hah...
Hah...
Haah
Haa...
Haa...
Haaah
Kento...
...



Mizu...
ki...



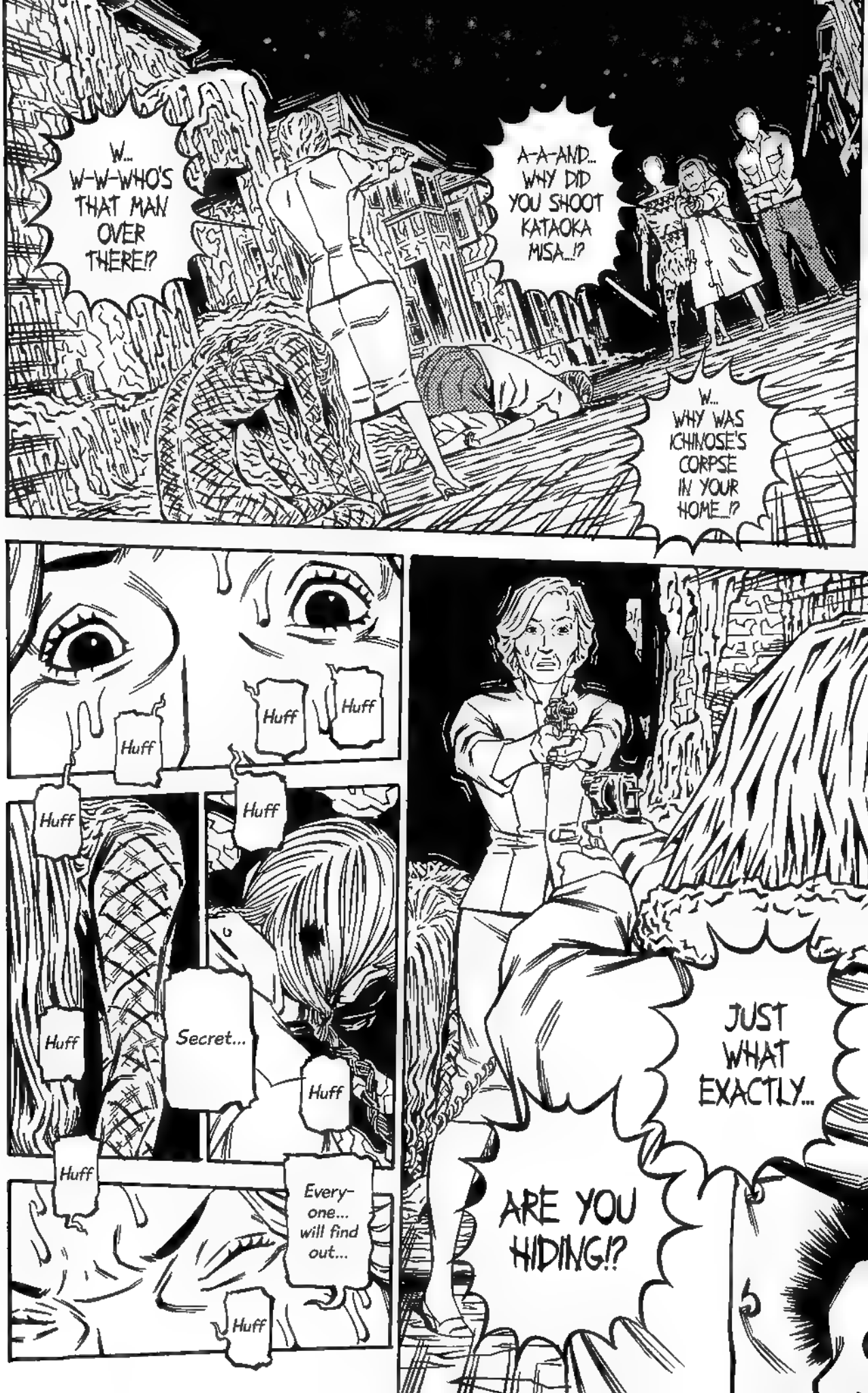
BURRNN


Noo...
Aaaghhh!
RUMMBLE

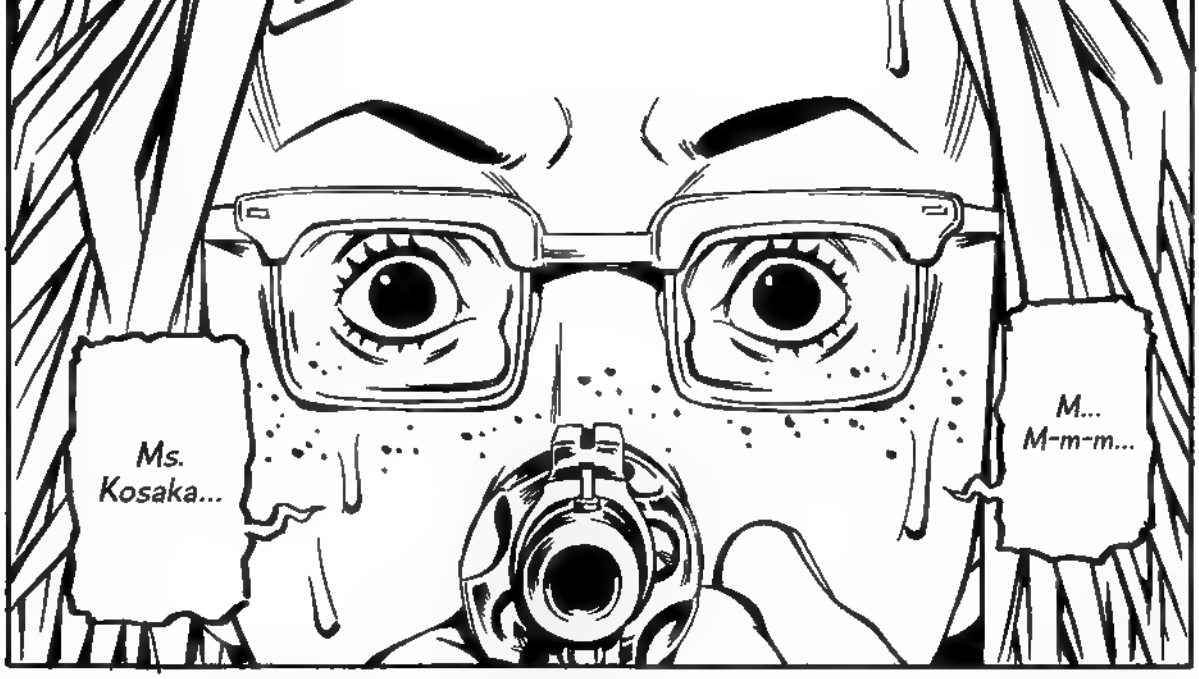
We were too late...!

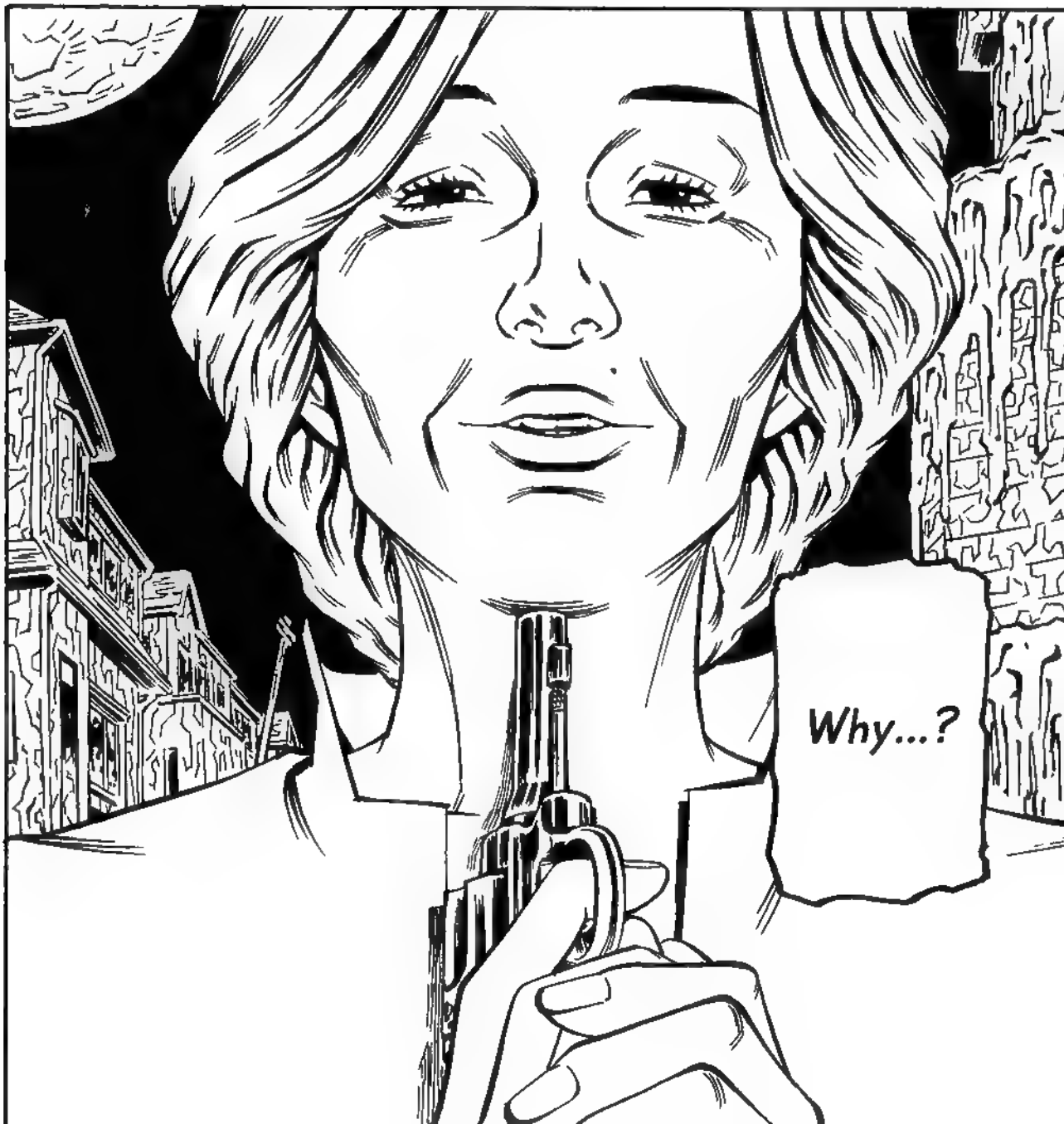
MMBLE
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
JUST WHAT DID YOU D-
DASH
MS. KOSAKA!
T...
The fish-scaled man...!

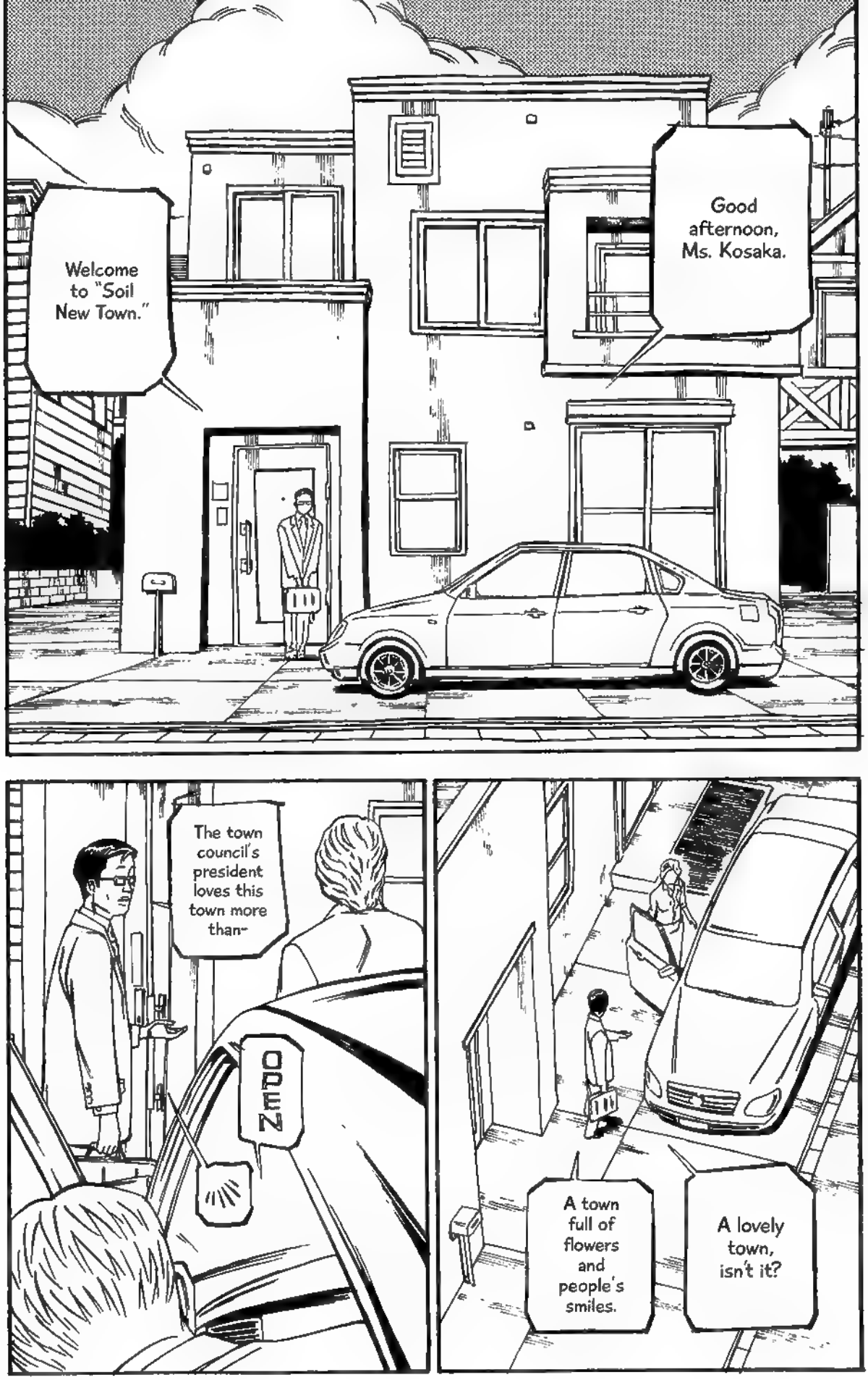
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
!!!
P-P-P...
CLACK
PUT DOWN YOUR GUN!
...
My arm is...
Onoda...
GRAB


W... W-W-WHO'S THAT MAN OVER THERE!?
A-A-AND... WHY DID YOU SHOOT KATAOKA MISA...!?
W... WHY WAS ICHINOSE'S CORPSE IN YOUR HOME...!?
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Secret...
Every-one... will find out...
JUST WHAT EXACTLY...
ARE YOU HIDING!?

Haa...

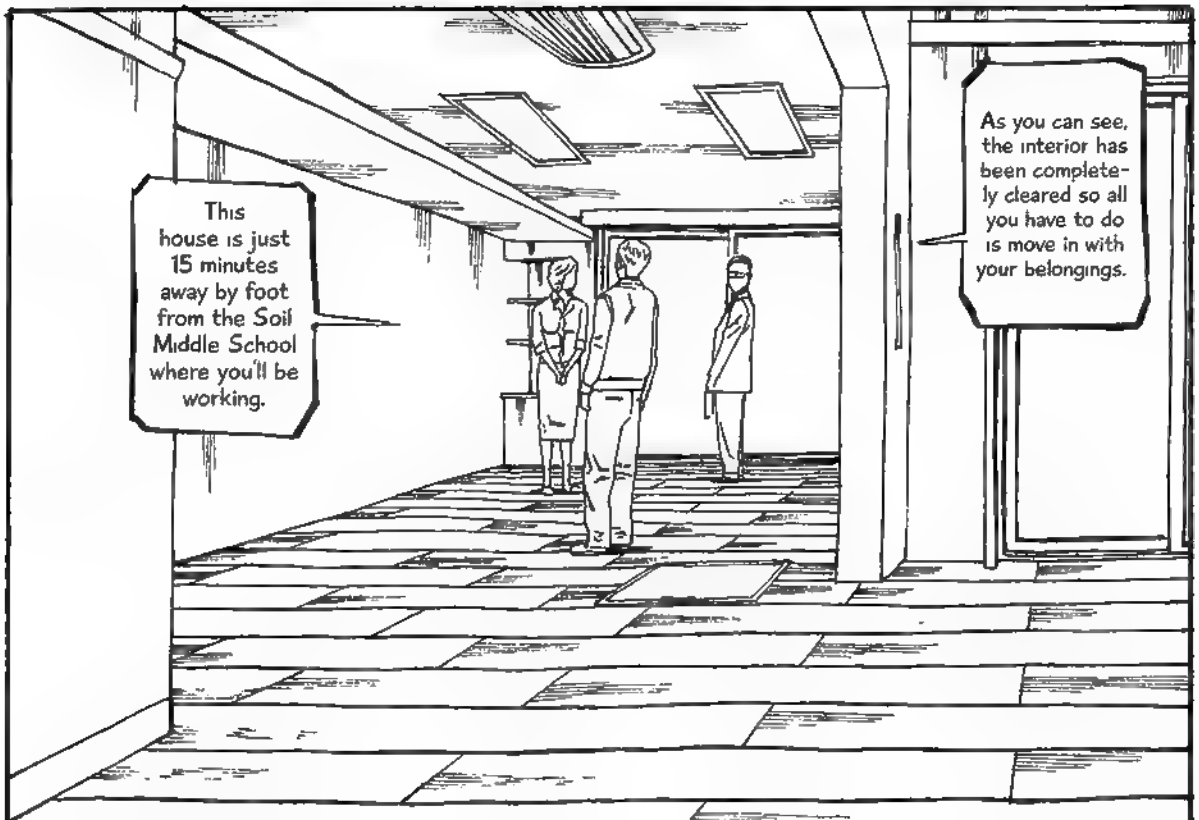

Ms. Kosaka...
M... M-m-m...

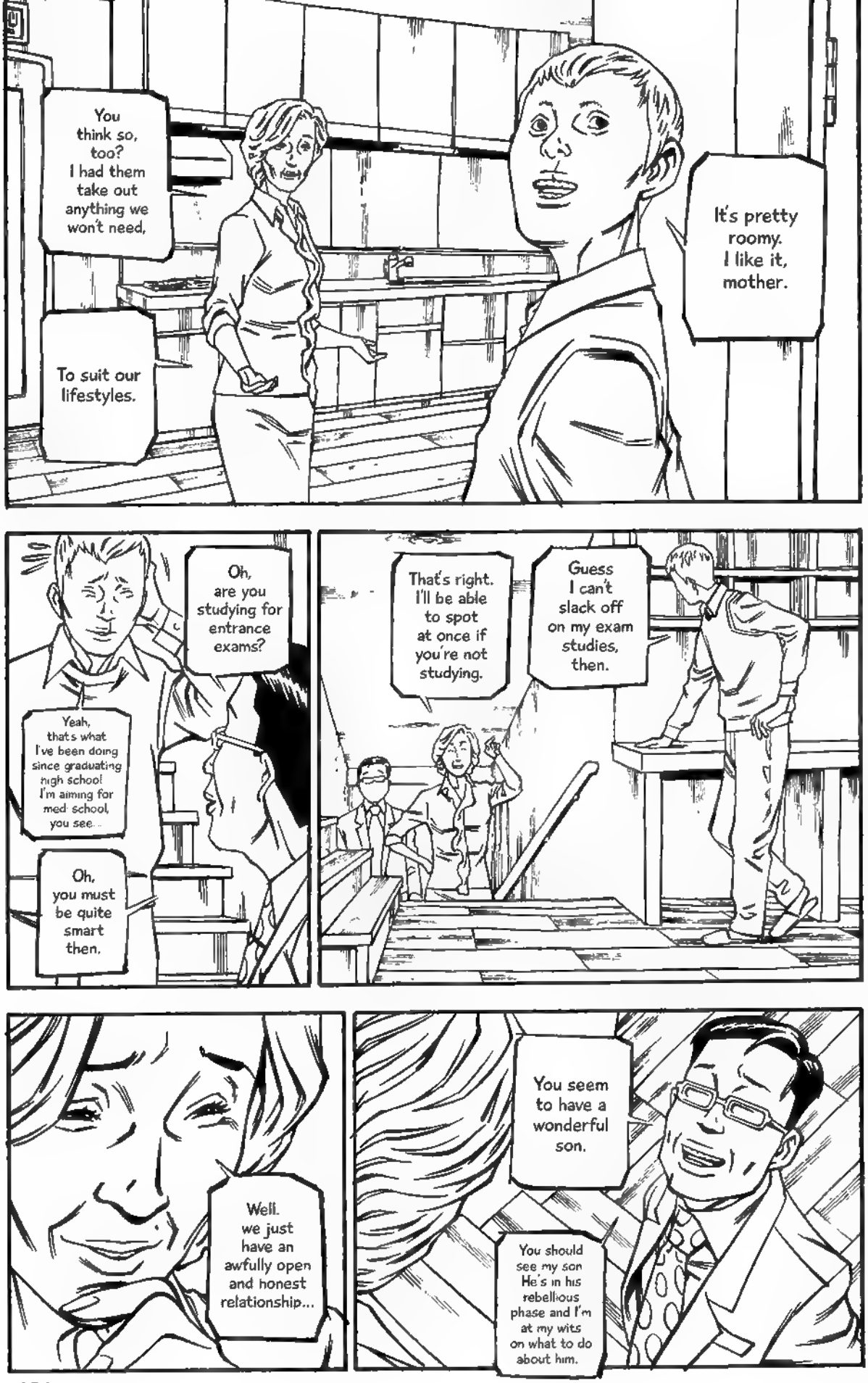

Why...?


Welcome to "Soil New Town."
Good afternoon, Ms. Kosaka.
The town council's president loves this town more than-
OPEN
A town full of flowers and people's smiles.
A lovely town, isn't it?

BLOCK 3-34

[Youhei – 1]

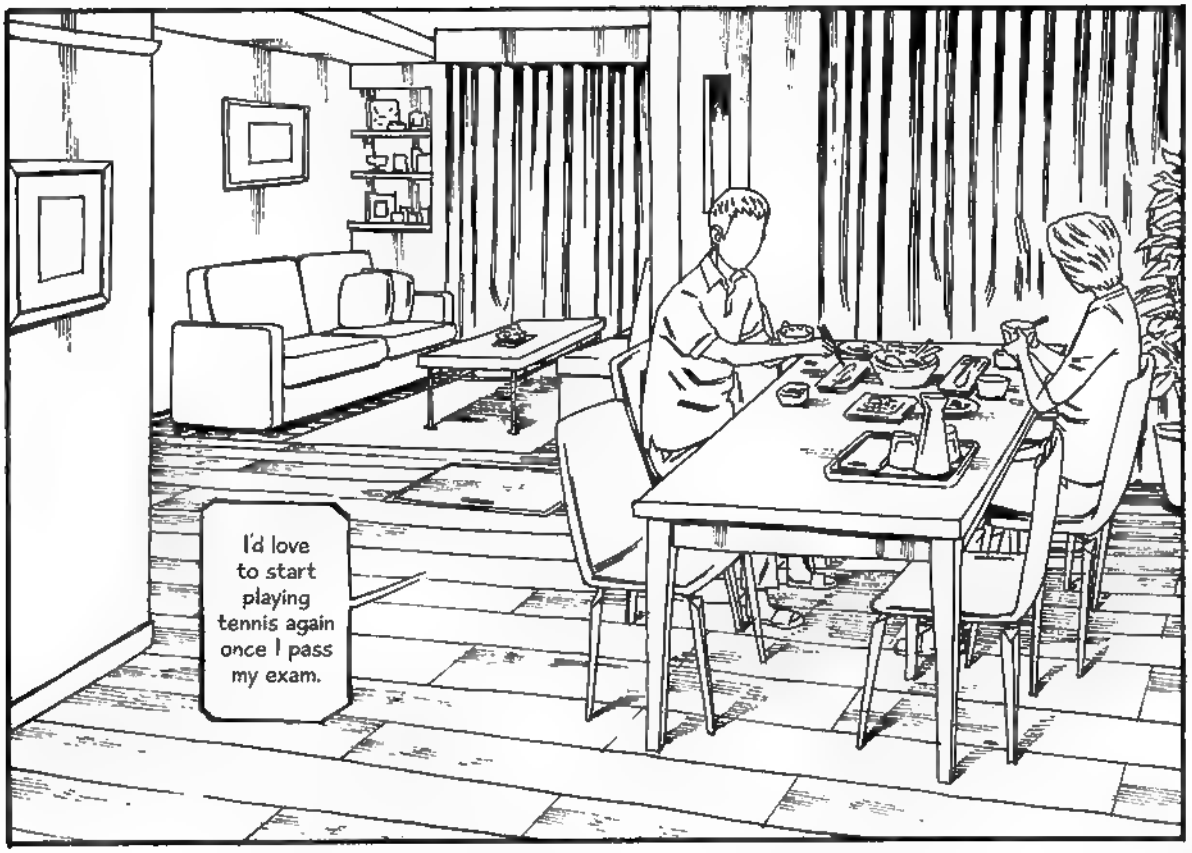

This house is just 15 minutes away by foot from the Soil Middle School where you'll be working.
As you can see, the interior has been completely cleared so all you have to do is move in with your belongings.

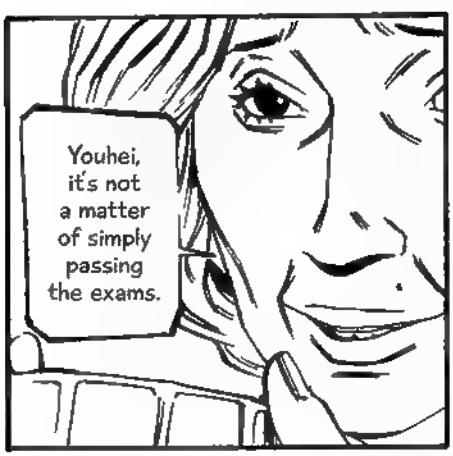

It's pretty roomy. I like it, mother.
You think so, too? I had them take out anything we won't need,
To suit our lifestyles.
Oh, are you studying for entrance exams?
Yeah, that's what I've been doing since graduating high school. I'm aiming for med school, you see...
Oh, you must be quite smart then.
Guess I can't slack off on my exam studies, then.
That's right. I'll be able to spot at once if you're not studying.
Well, we just have an awfully open and honest relationship...
You seem to have a wonderful son.
You should see my son. He's in his rebellious phase and I'm at my wits on what to do about him.

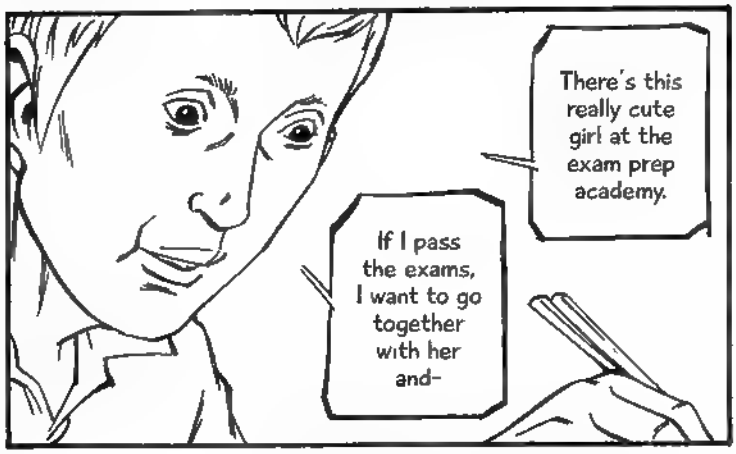
We're just a family of two so we've lived never hiding anything from each other...
Don't you think it's a sad thing to keep secrets from your loved ones?
What's this? A storage room?
Oh right, I haven't shown Yousuke this room yet.

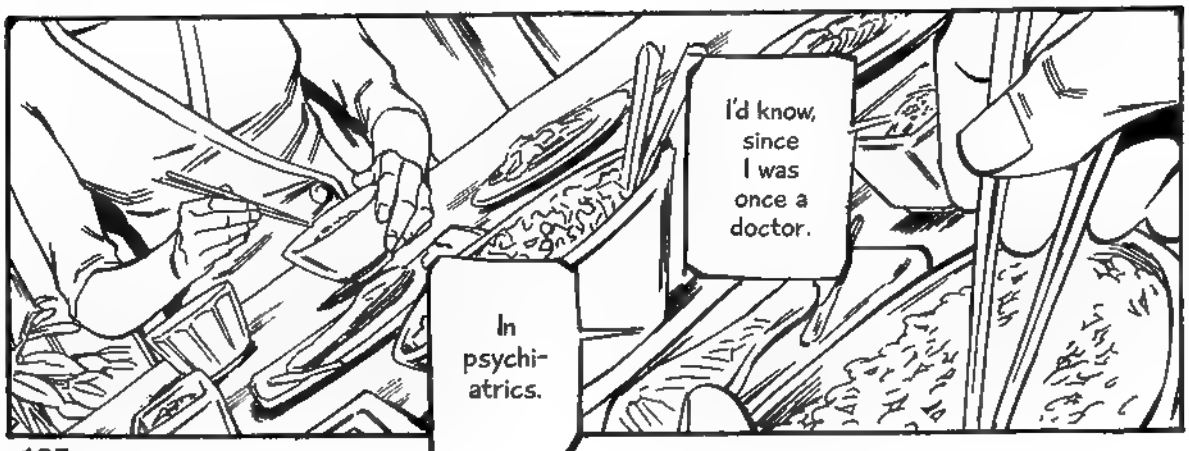
It's a wine cellar.
The previous owner ran a restaurant and was a real wine enthusiast.
He had all his vintages stored here,
AGHHH! HOT! HOT!
CRAP, THE ELECTRICITY WASN'T TURNED OFF!
And locked it up good for-
As you can see, there's a high electric current running through the wires.
Wine enthusiast or not, I honestly think he was a little touched in the head for going to such lengths...

You should leave the electricity off for safety.
Plus, it'll keep the electric lock unlocked.
CLICK
THUNK
It's the refrigerator.
It seems this is where he stored some ingredients for his restaurant.
What's this?
So if you don't mind, you should just use it as it is...
It would have cost too much to try and properly discard something this big.


I'd love to start playing tennis again once I pass my exam.


Youhei, it's not a matter of simply passing the exams.


There's this really cute girl at the exam prep academy.
If I pass the exams, I want to go together with her and-

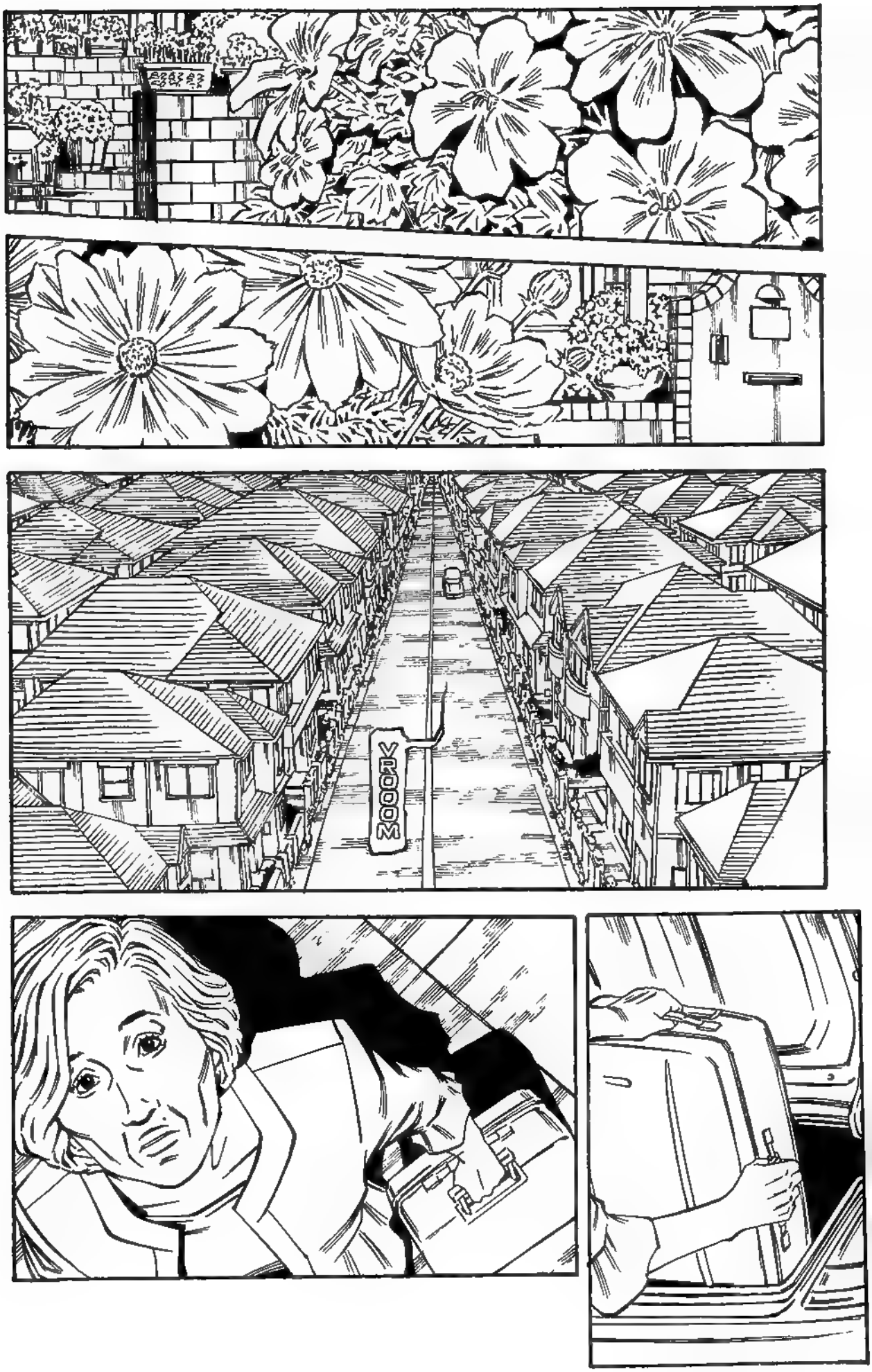

I'd know, since I was once a doctor.
In psychi-atrics.

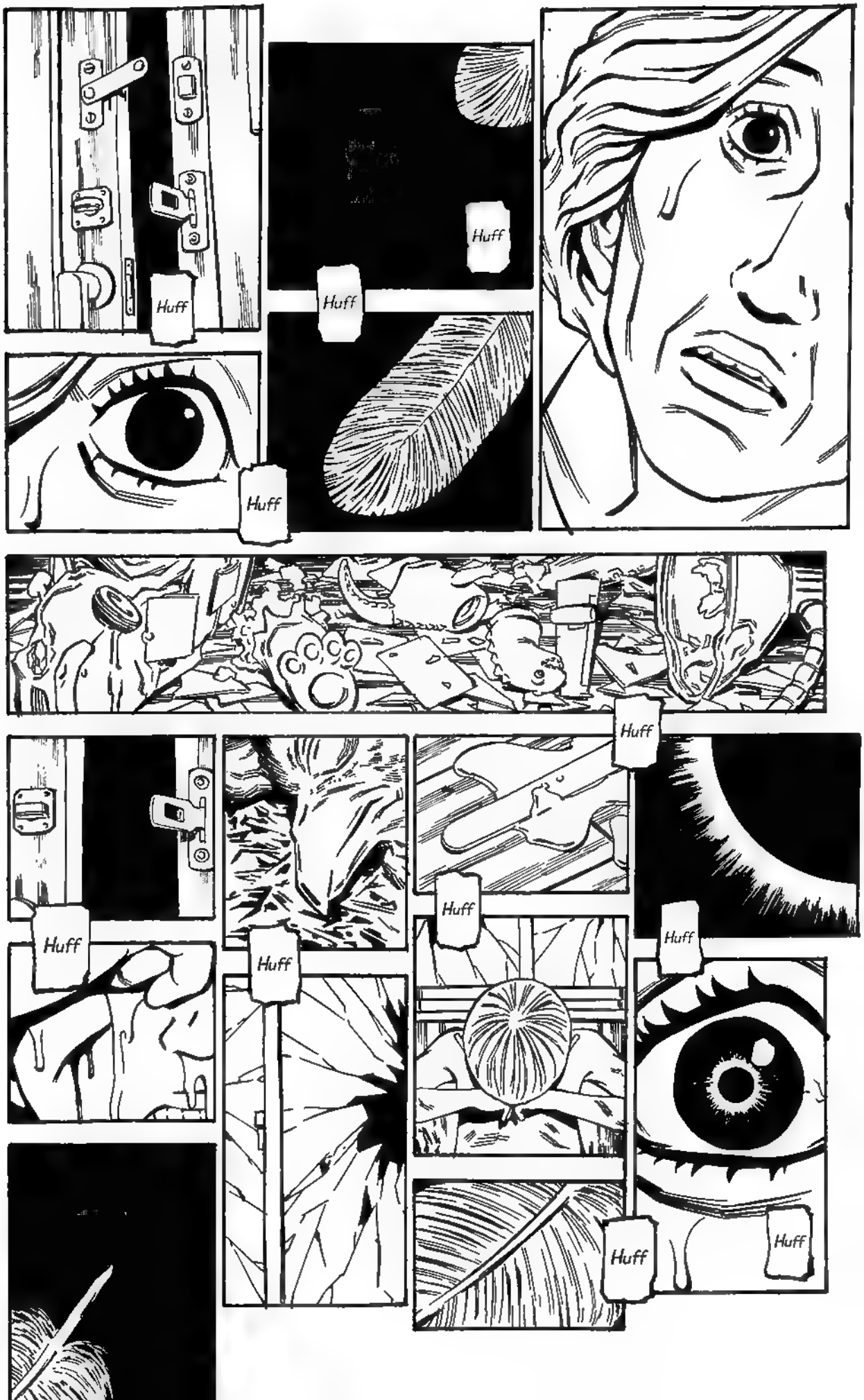
Why'd you quit?
No, not at all.
I just didn't feel I was suited for it.
...Was it my fault?
Because you gave birth to me...?
Did you buy it?
Oh that's right, mother!
Looks pretty unique. I like it
A two-headed flower?
I put it next to the laptop.
STAND

Well, I'm so clueless when it comes to these stuff.
But thanks a lot, mother!
You really should pick out gifts like that yourself...
Are you going to give it to that girl in the academy?
SAAAAA
Don't worry. I'm not a child anymore.
So you'll be here by yourself for about a week.
I'll leave enough food in the fridge for you and some money, too ..
SAAAA
So you see,
I have lots of things to wrap up and hand over to my replacement at my last job,

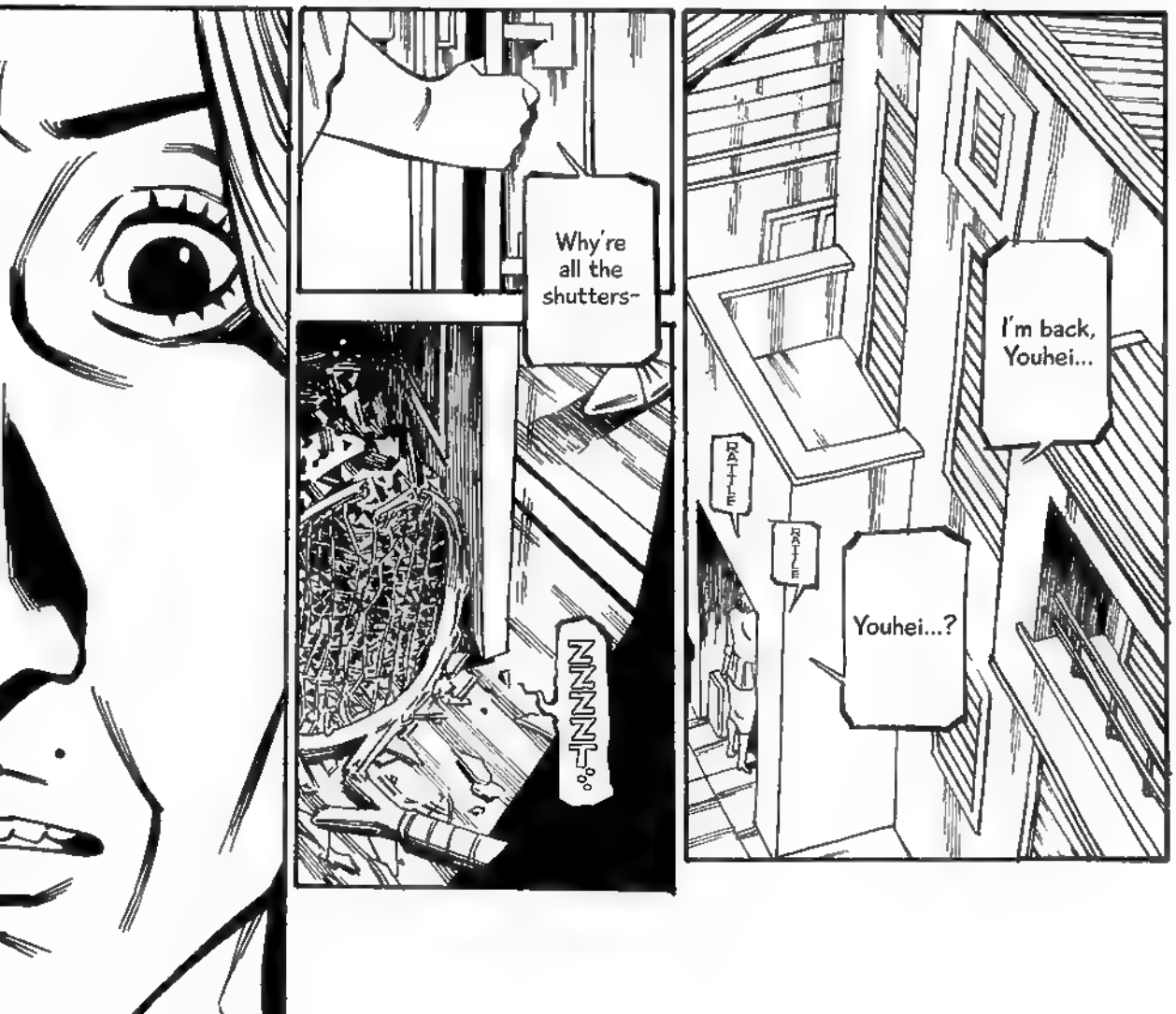
Oh... You mean because of my narcolepsy?
When you were younger, I was so worried and terrified of even leaving you in the house alone.
I don't remember much about it though.
SAAAAA
HAHA!
What?
Thinking back, maybe I worried about it too much.
SAAAAA
It wasn't as if you'd gone through anything special enough to trigger the syndrome.
And you recovered soon enough, too... But it happened often when you were a little boy.
The one about the black dog...
Now that I think about it, I had that dream again for the first time in a long while
SLIP
Ah-

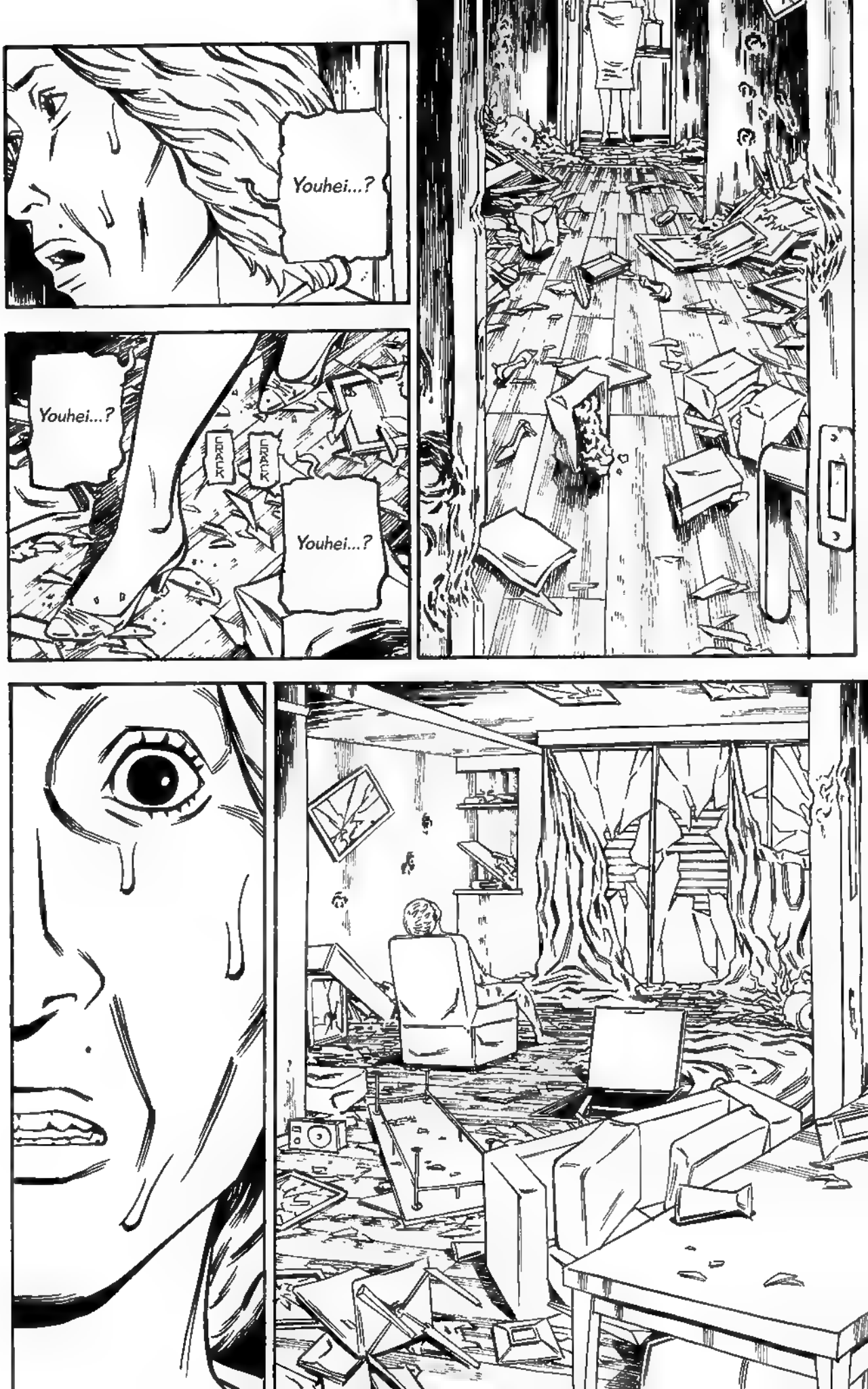
I'll clean it up.
I don't want you accidentally hurting your hands.
That bowl was part of a set...
Oh dear...
CRACK
...It means you've grown up well.
You've grown up to be a physically and mentally well-adjusted young man.
I wonder why?
But you know... The dream wasn't as scary as it had been back when I was young.
I've no need to be worried about you anymore.
I understand everything there is about you now.

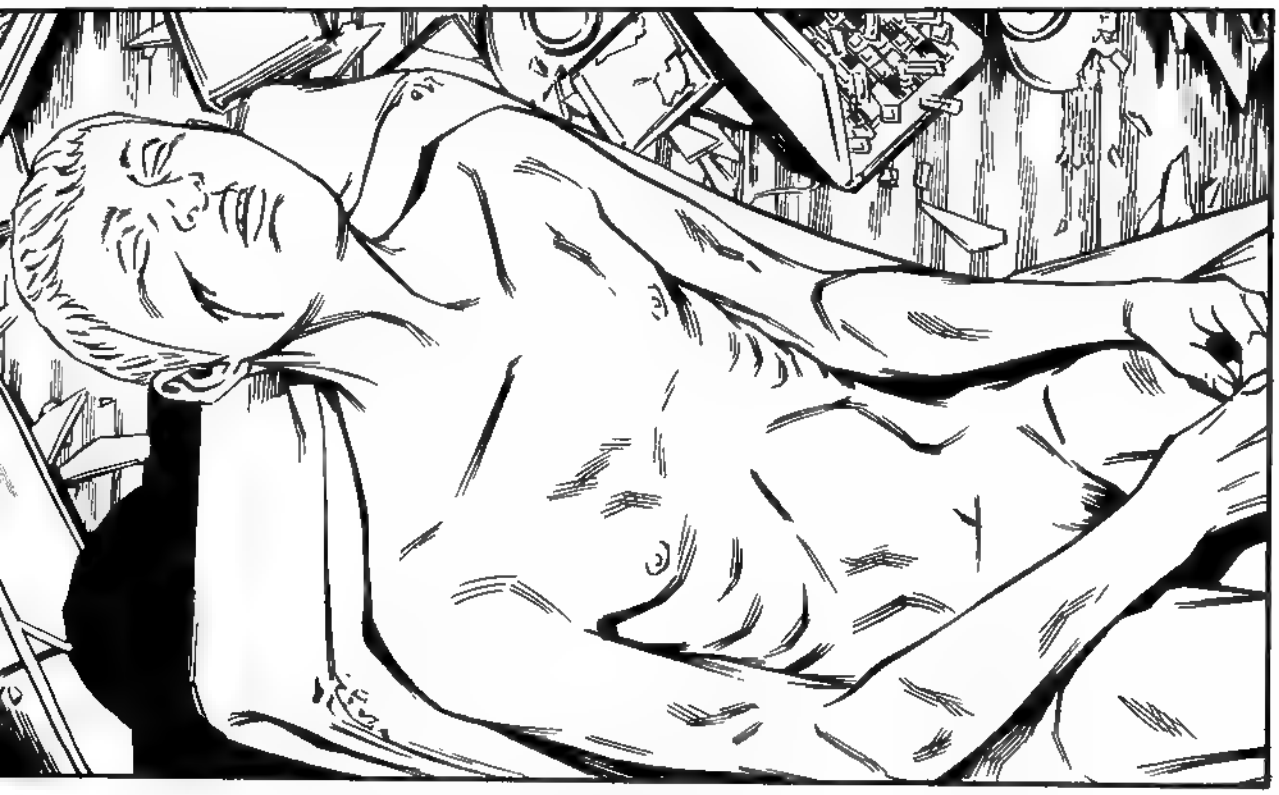

VROOM


Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff

Youhei...?
...

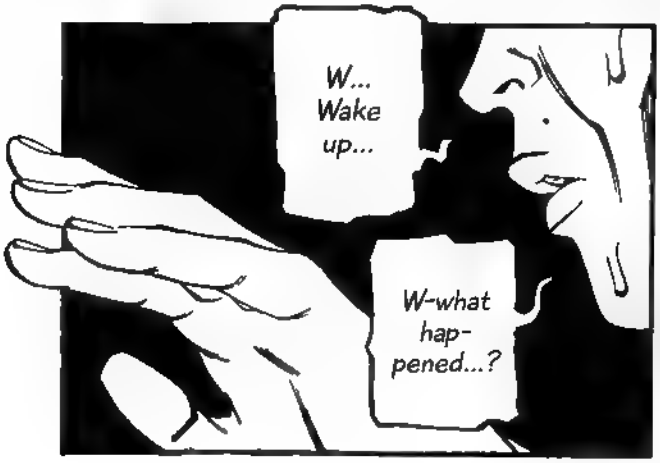

Why're all the shutters-
ZZZZT...
I'm back, Youhei...
RATTLE
RATTLE
Youhei...?

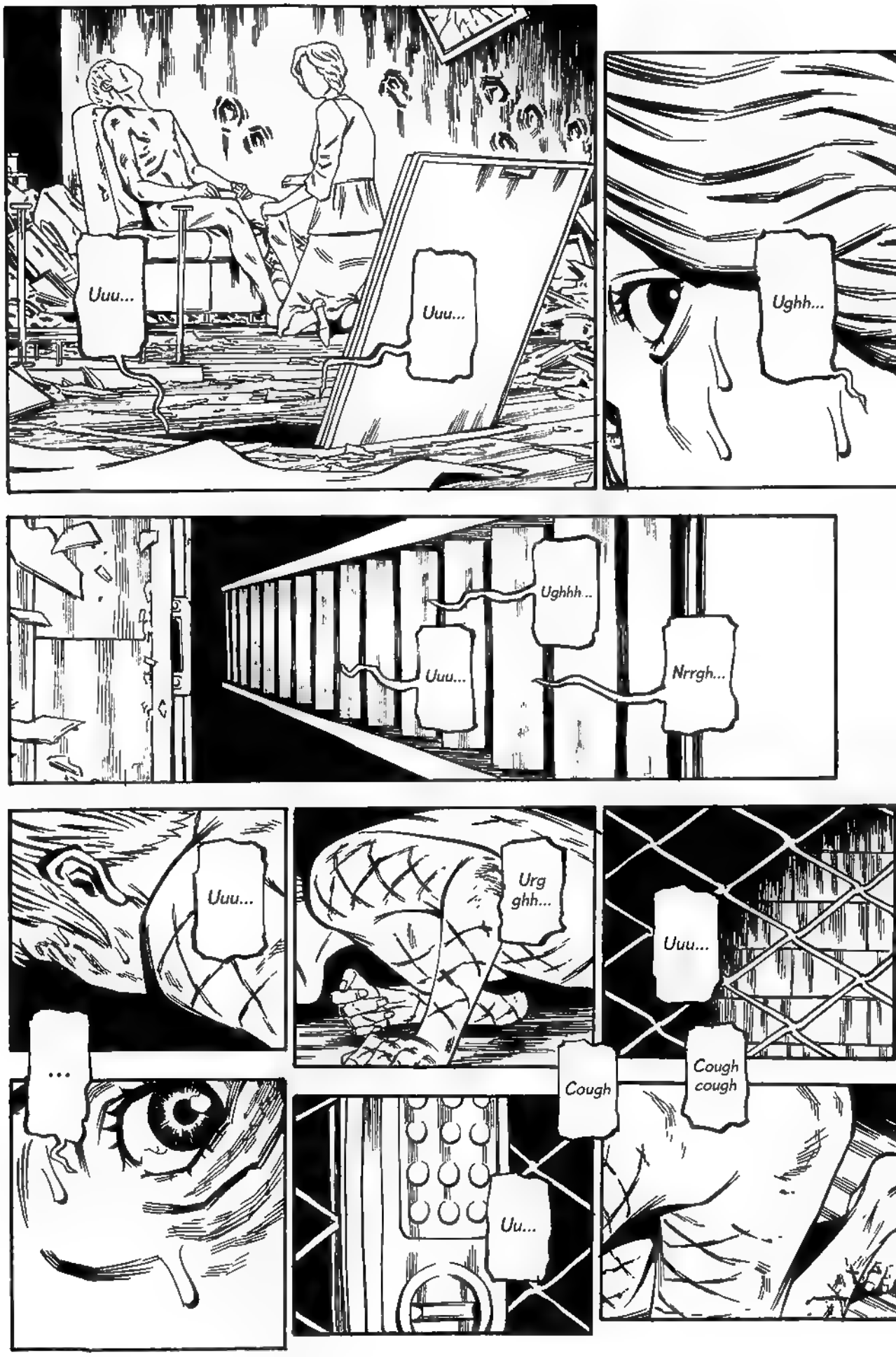

Youhei...?
Youhei...?
URAUK
URAUK
Youhei...?

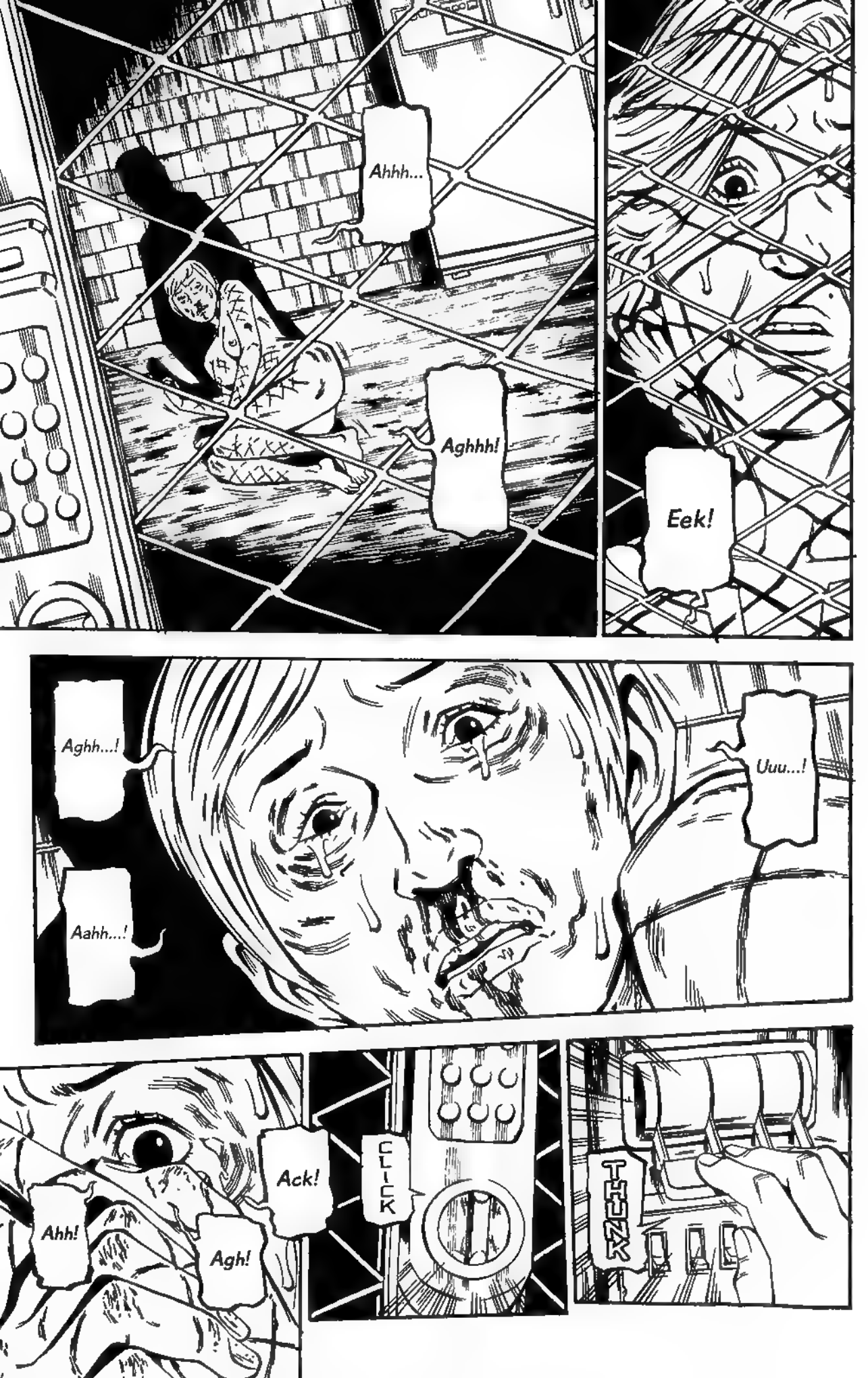


What're you... doing there... like that...?
Yo... Youhei...?

HAAA...
HAAA...
HAAA...

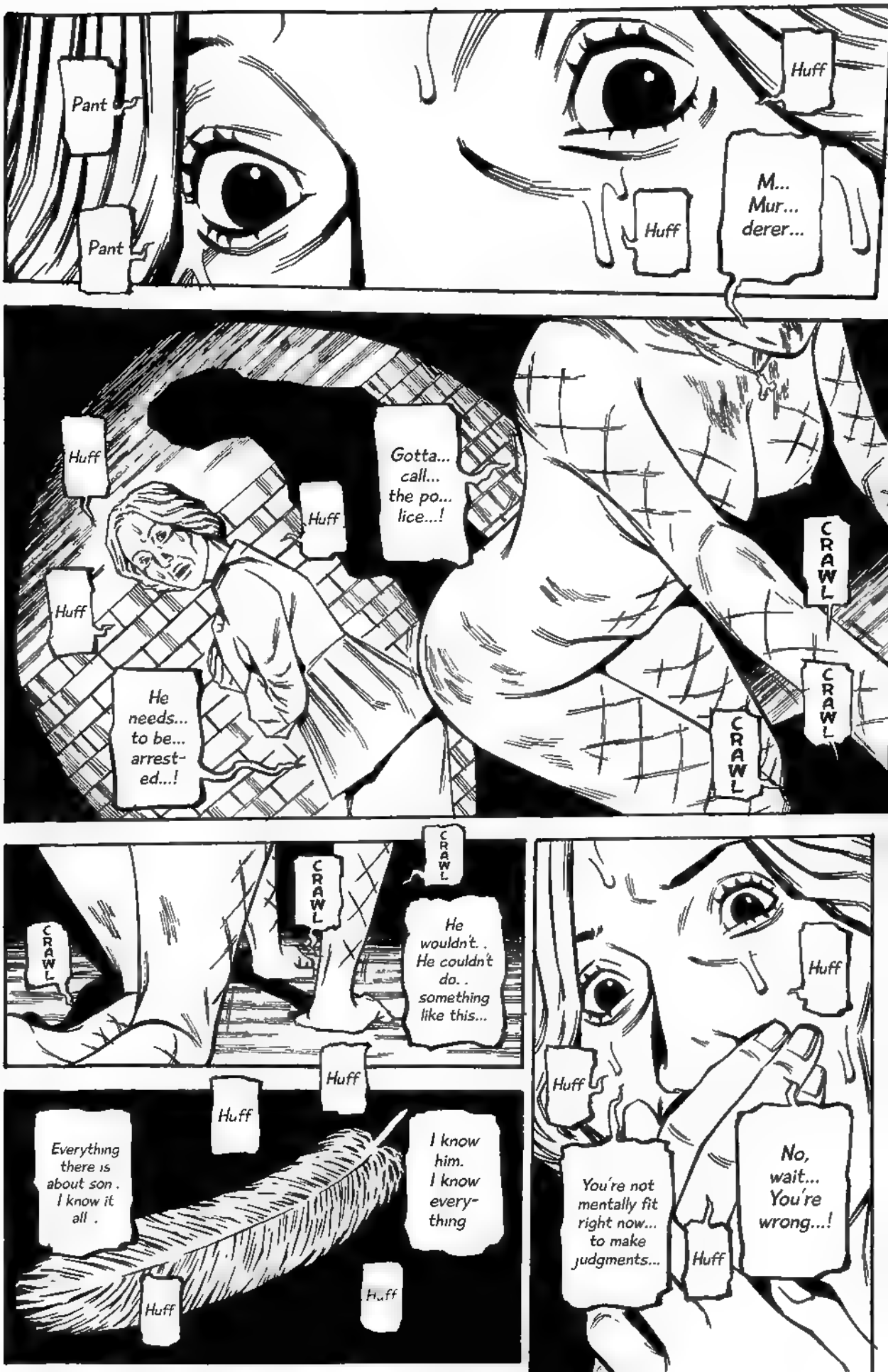

W... Wake up...
W-what hap- pened...?


Uuu...
Uuu...
Ughh...
Ughhh...
Uuu...
Nrrgh...
Uuu...
Urg ghh...
Uuu...
...
Cough
Cough cough
Uu...

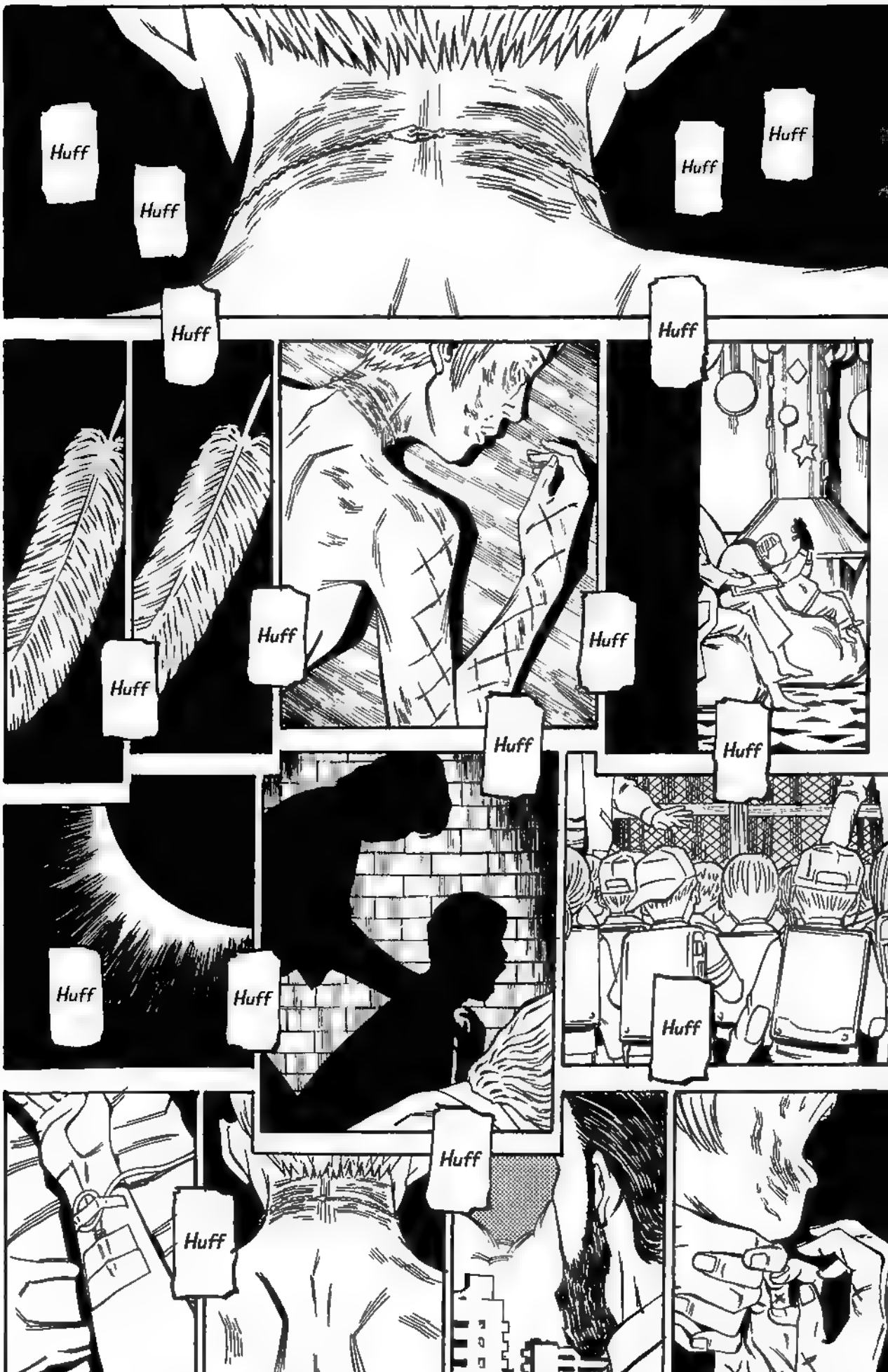

Ahhh...
Aghhh!
Eek!
Aghh...!
Aahh...!
Uuu...!
Ack!
Ahh!
Agh!
CLICK
TICK

Y... Youhei...
Locked... me up... here...
Who did this to you...?
Did some-thing happen?
Who are you...? Are you Youhei's friend?
Just breathe slowly.
Don't worry... Don't be scared.
Gasp
Gasp
And he... tried... to strangl-

He's a... M... M... Monster...!
A m... murder- er...!
Wha...?
He did... what to you...?
W.. What're you saying.. ?
Pant
Pant
There's... no way... Youhei could...
CRAWL
CRAWL
Must... call... the police...!
Huff
Huff
Your mind is... con- fused...
No... Just calm down...
Huff
There's no way he could...
P... Po... Police...!
CRAWL
CRAWL
He needs... to... be caught...!


Pant
Pant
Huff
Huff
M... Mur... derer...
Huff
Huff
Huff
Gotta... call... the po... lice...!
He needs... to be... arrest-ed...!
CRAWL
CRAWL
CRAWL
CRAWL
CRAWL
CRAWL
He wouldn't. . He couldn't do. . something like this...
Huff
Huff
Everything there is about son . I know it all .
I know him. I know every-thing
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
You're not mentally fit right now... to make judgments...
No, wait... You're wrong...!
Huff

I... can't... forgive him...
You're wrong!
You're wrong...!
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
What you're saying. It doesn't.. make any sense..!
No... Stop... Please...!
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
No matter... what...!
Ne... ver...


Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
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Huff
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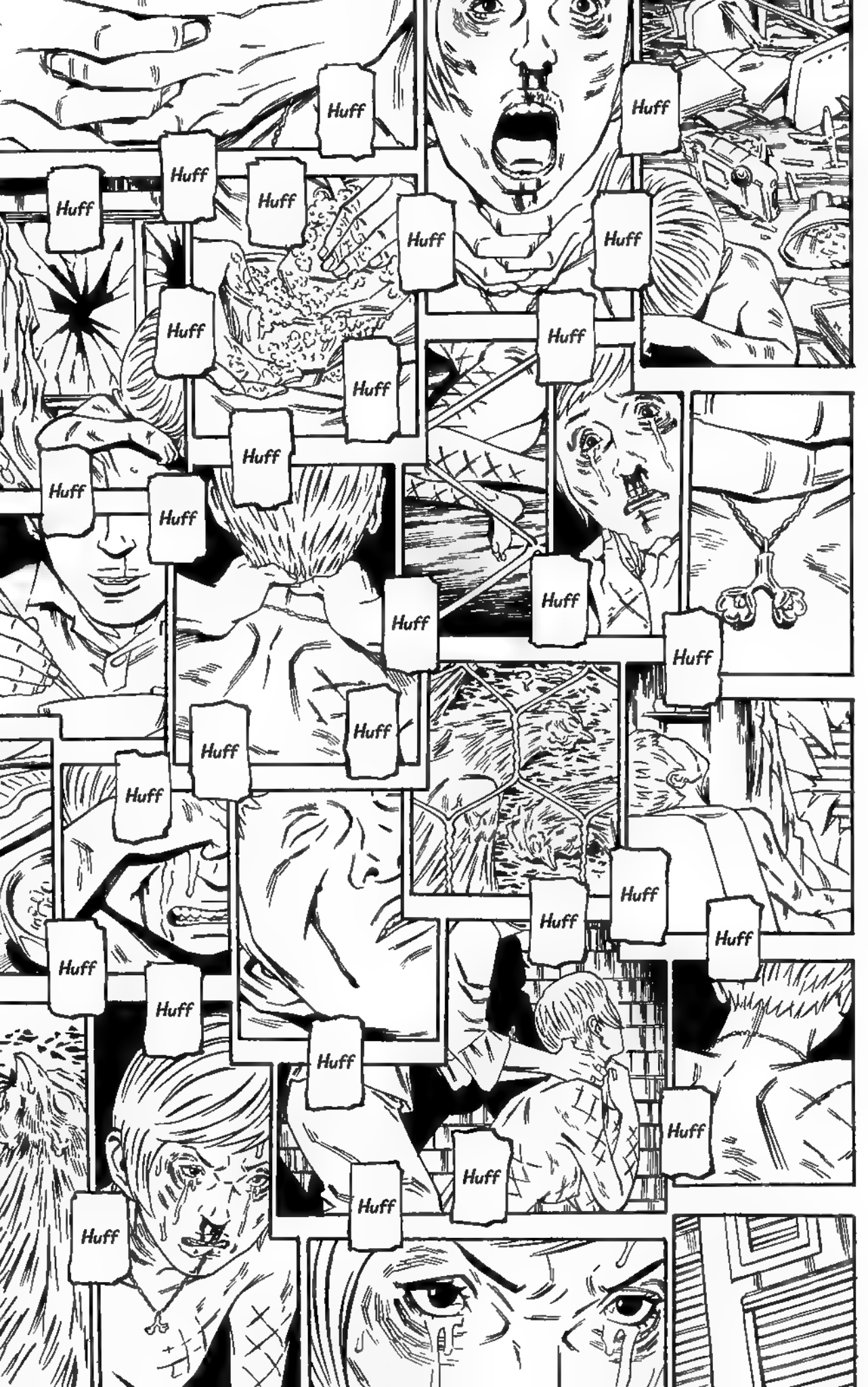
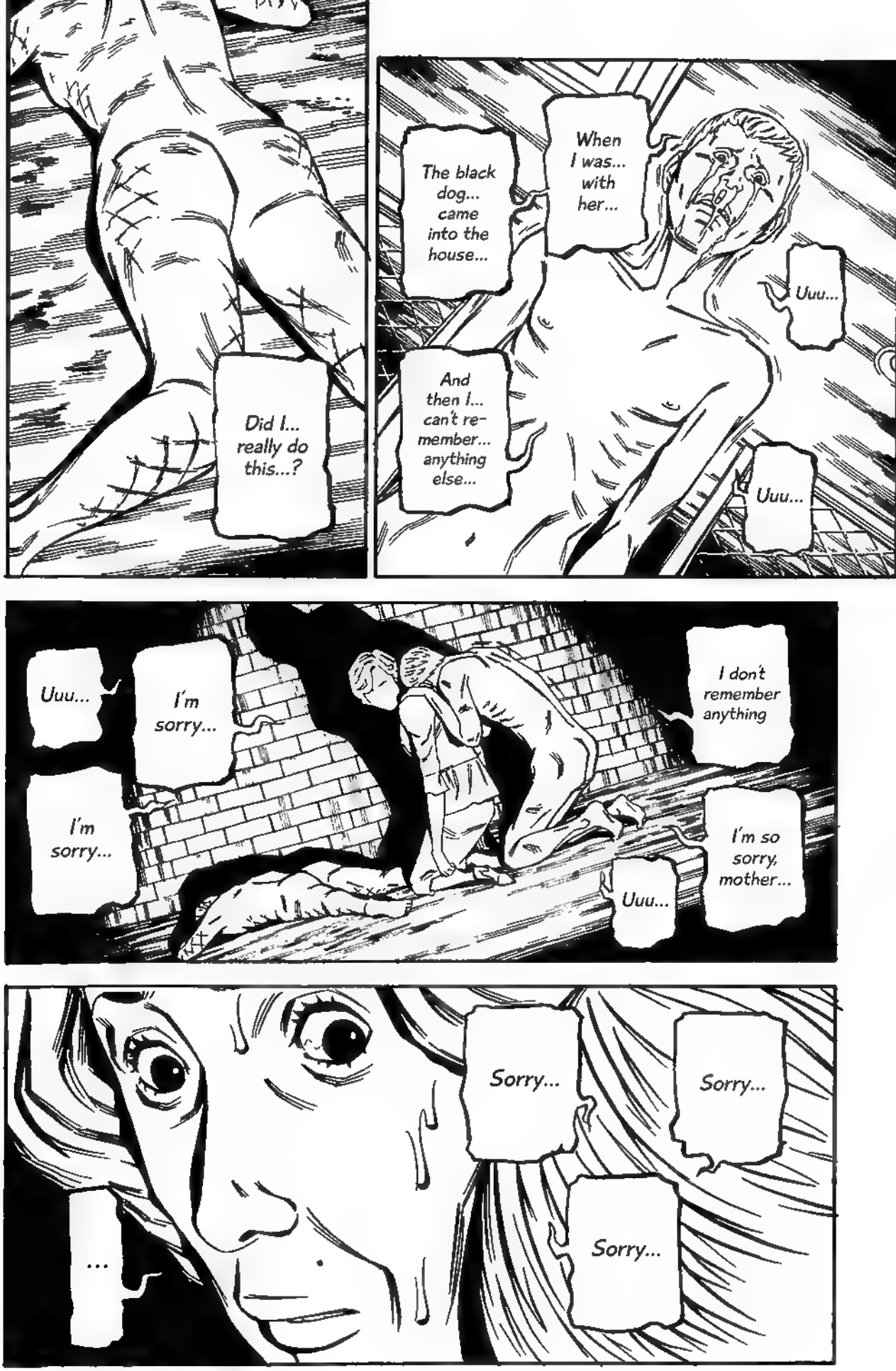
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff
Huff

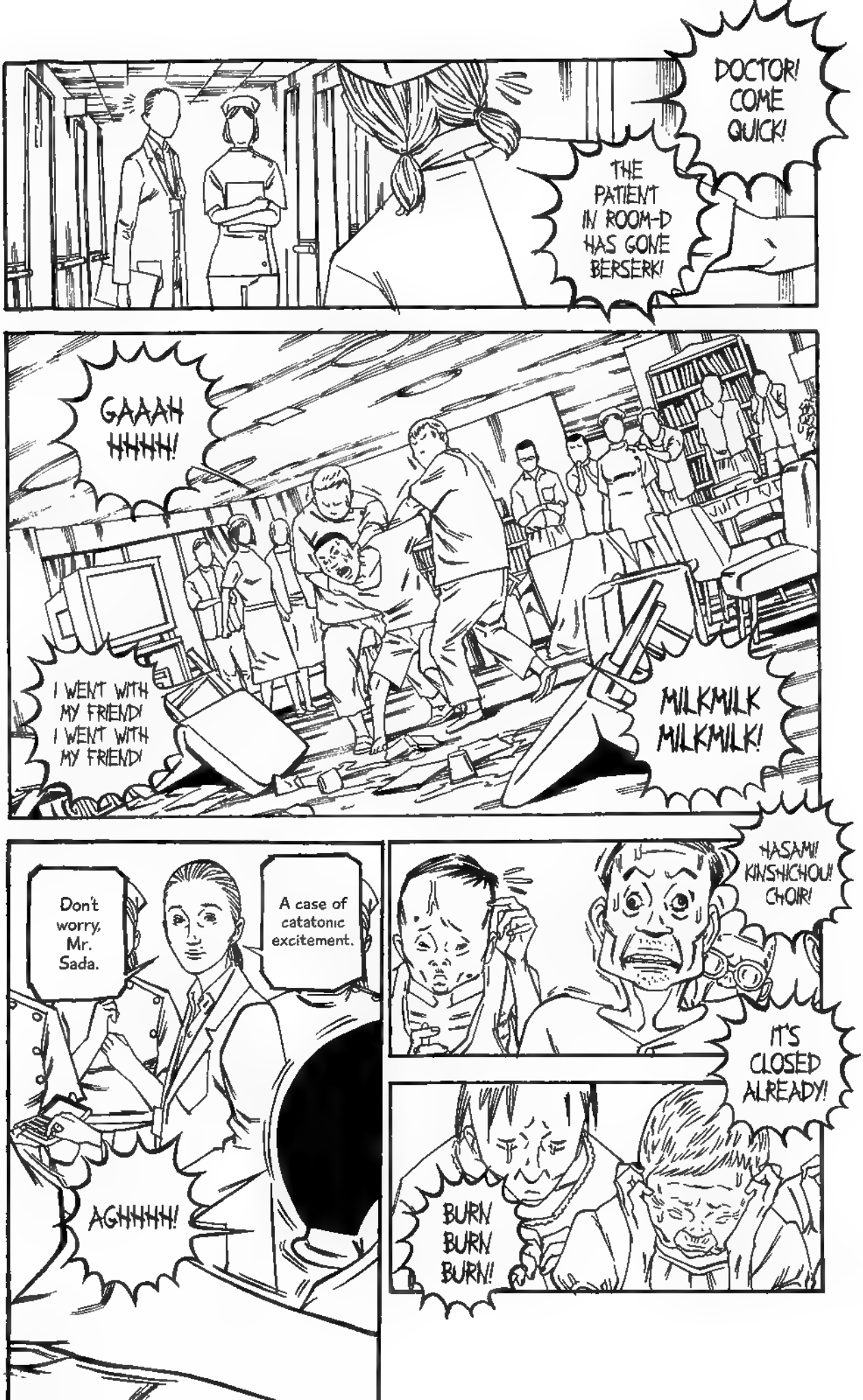

Huff
Huff
Huff

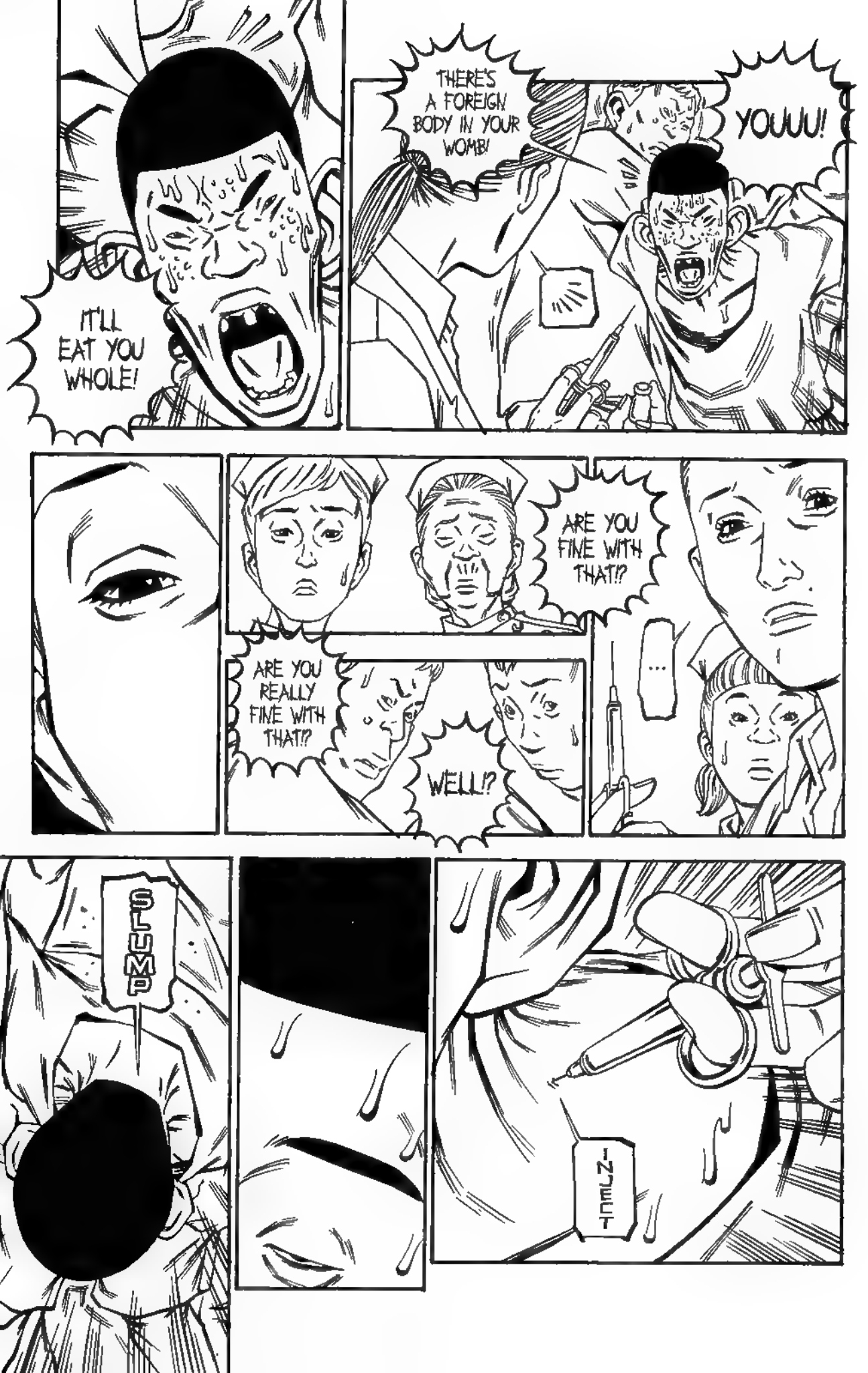
SLUMP!
AGHHHHH!
AAAAAAA!
AAAAAAA!
AAAAAAA!
AAAAAAA!
AAAAAAA!

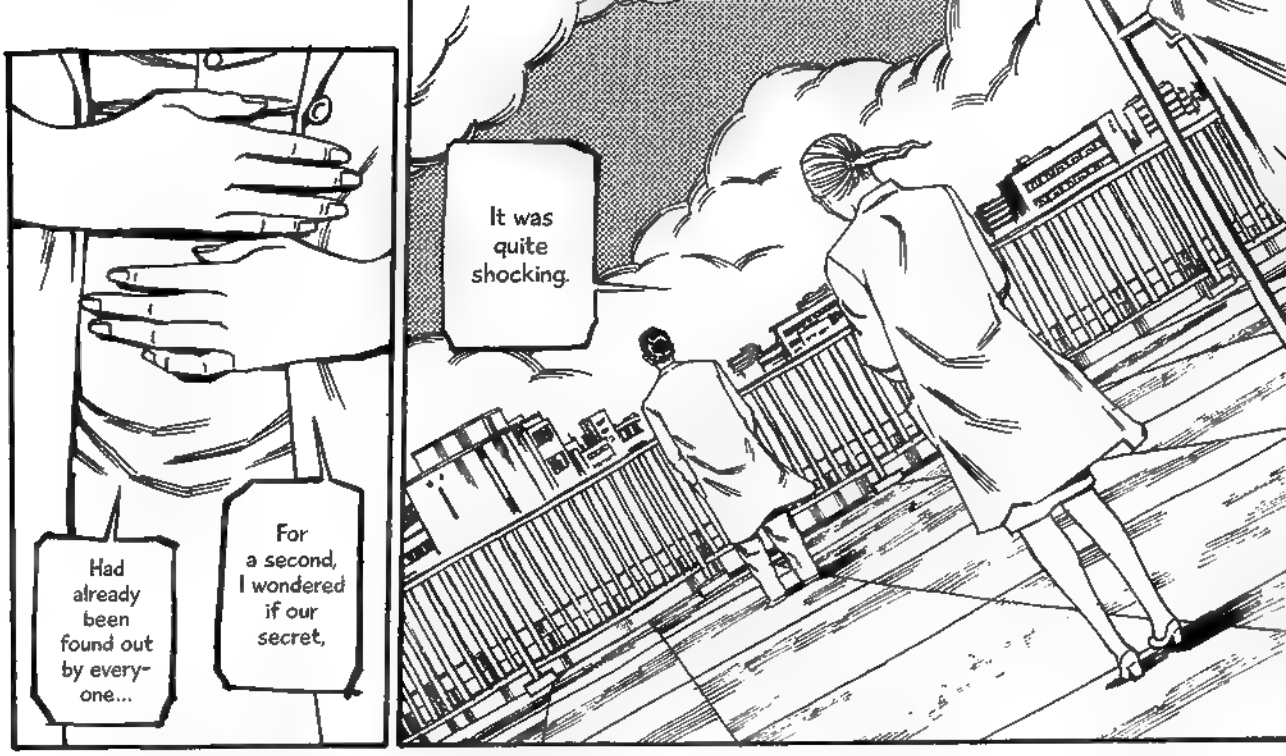
You... hei...
You...
So she was still alive.
TWITCH


Did I... really do this...?
The black dog... came into the house...
When I was... with her...
Uuu...
And then I... can't remember... anything else...
Uuu...
Uuu...
I'm sorry...
I'm sorry...
I don't remember anything
I'm so sorry, mother...
Uuu...
...
Sorry...
Sorry...
Sorry...

Congrat-
ulations,
Dr. Kosaka!
Umm...
I heard your
thesis was
well received
and you were
set to do
research at
some hospital
in Germany.
Though that's
not to say
I know the
complex
details
of your
research.
Excuse
me?
Oh...
Thank
you.
But
it's not
quite set
in stone
just yet...


DOCTOR! COME QUICK!
THE PATIENT IN ROOM-D HAS GONE BERSERK!
GAAAH HHHH!
I WENT WITH MY FRIEND! I WENT WITH MY FRIEND!
MILKMILK MILKMILK!
Don't worry, Mr. Sada.
A case of catatonic excitement.
AGHHHH!
HASAMI! KINSHICHOU! CHOIR!
IT'S CLOSED ALREADY!
BURN BURN BURN!


IT'LL EAT YOU WHOLE!
THERE'S A FOREIGN BODY IN YOUR WOMB!
YOUUU!
ARE YOU FINE WITH THAT!?
ARE YOU REALLY FINE WITH THAT!?
WELL!?
...
SLUMP
INJECT


It was quite shocking.
For a second, I wondered if our secret,
Had already been found out by everyone...

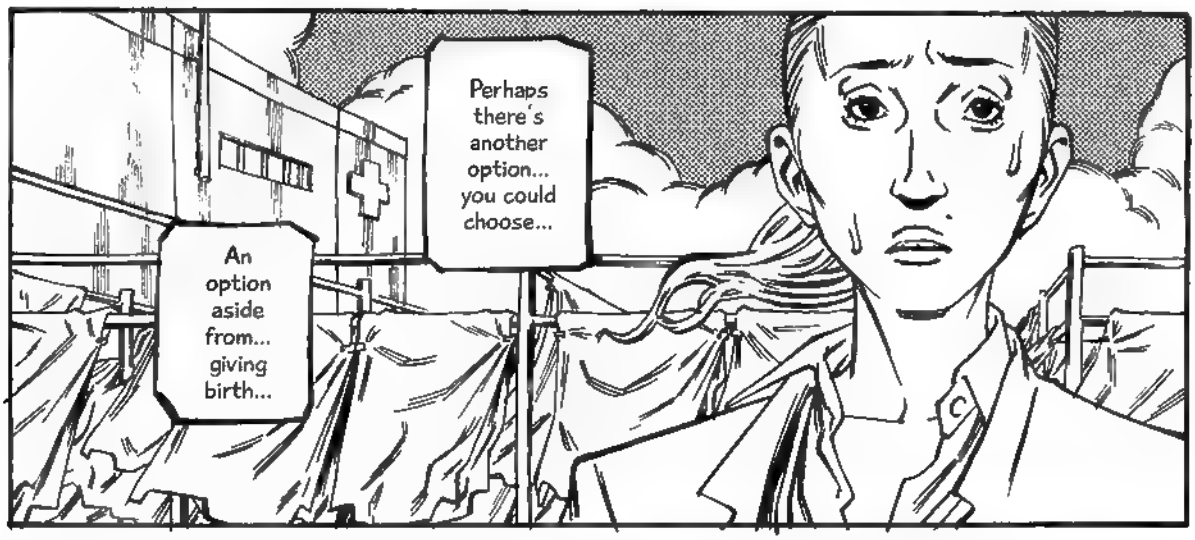
To hide one thing, you have to hide another,
It's terrifying to hold such a big secret.
And each time you hide one more thing about yourself, it feels like your own self is fading away .

...
I mean. There's the whole Germany thing, and . If we want to consider what's best for you, then...

Are you... fine with that...?

...Huh?

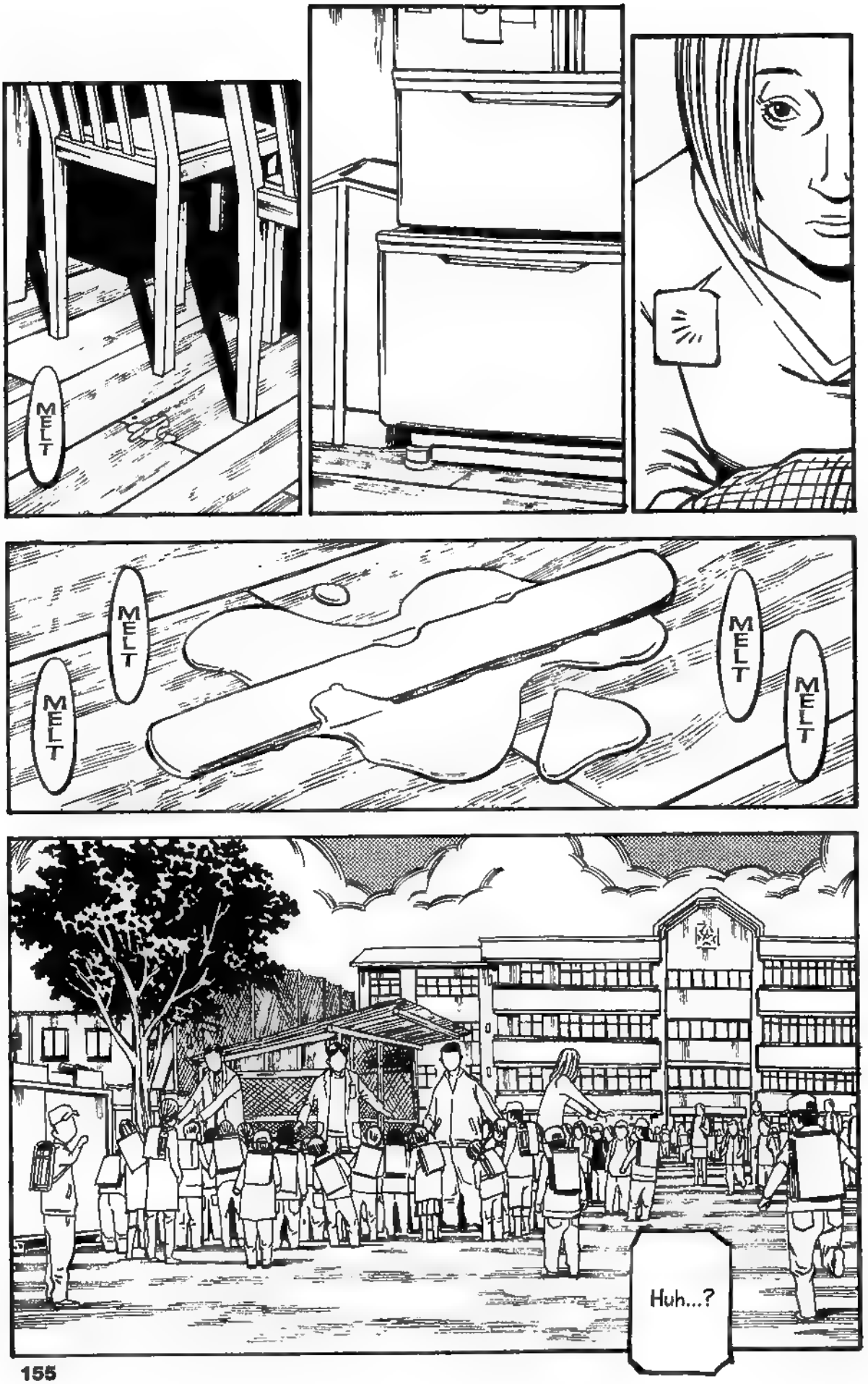
And we have our own futures to consider and protect, after all...
So umm... Well, I'm purely saying this out of concern for what's best for you, but...
I... I know I said I'd leave my wife, but I can't do that right away at the moment...
What is it you wish to say. .!?

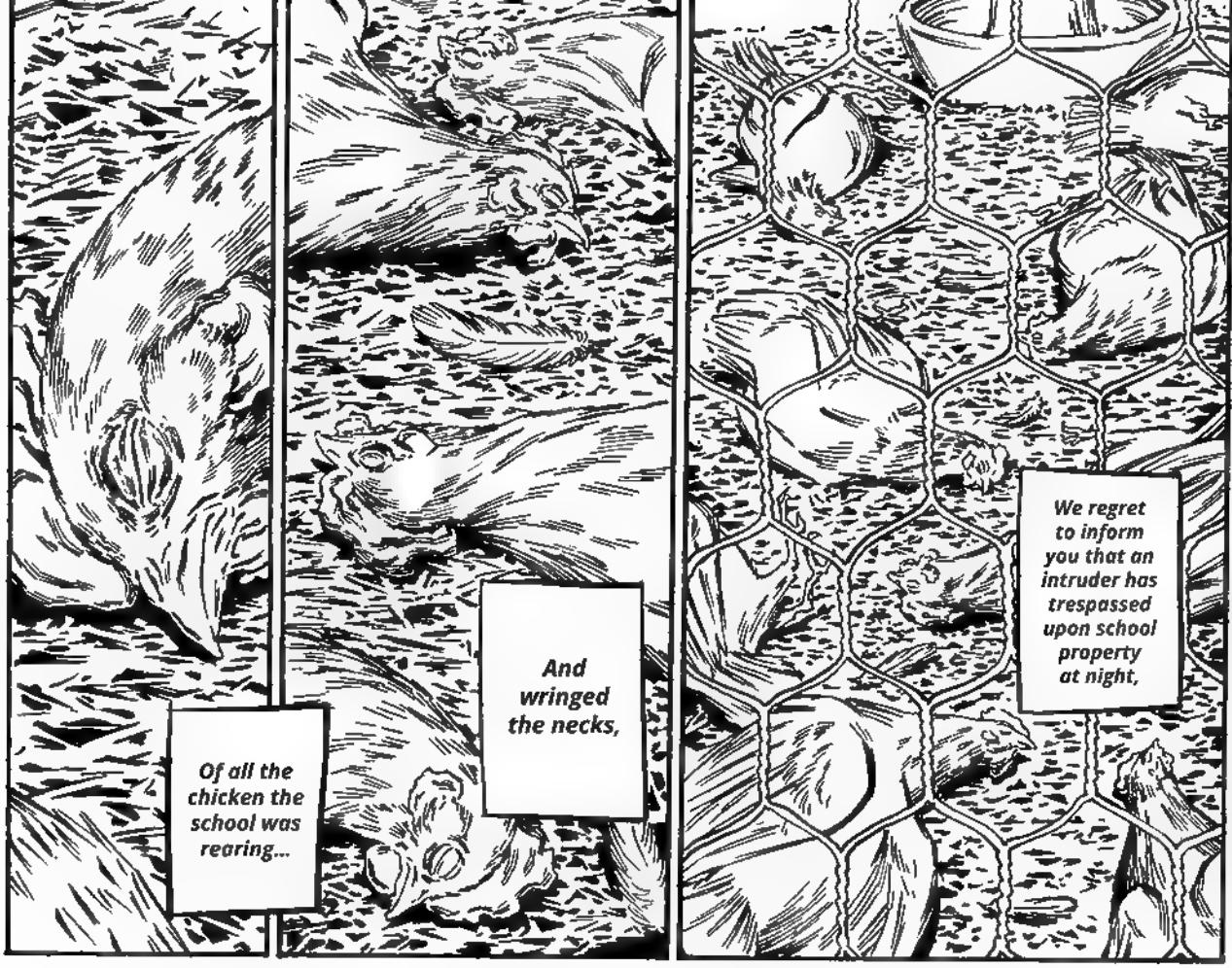


BLOCK 3-35

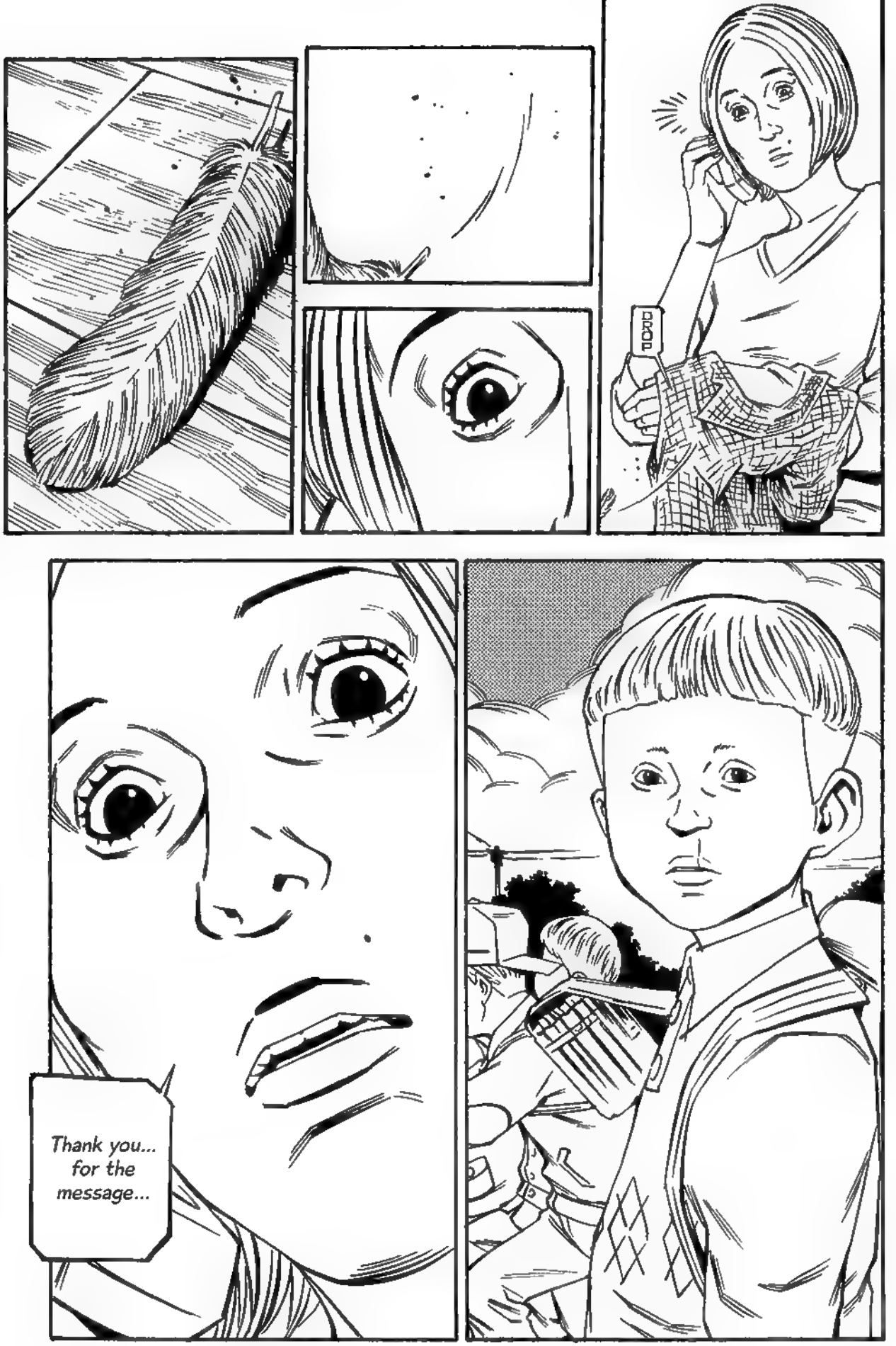
[Youhei – 2]

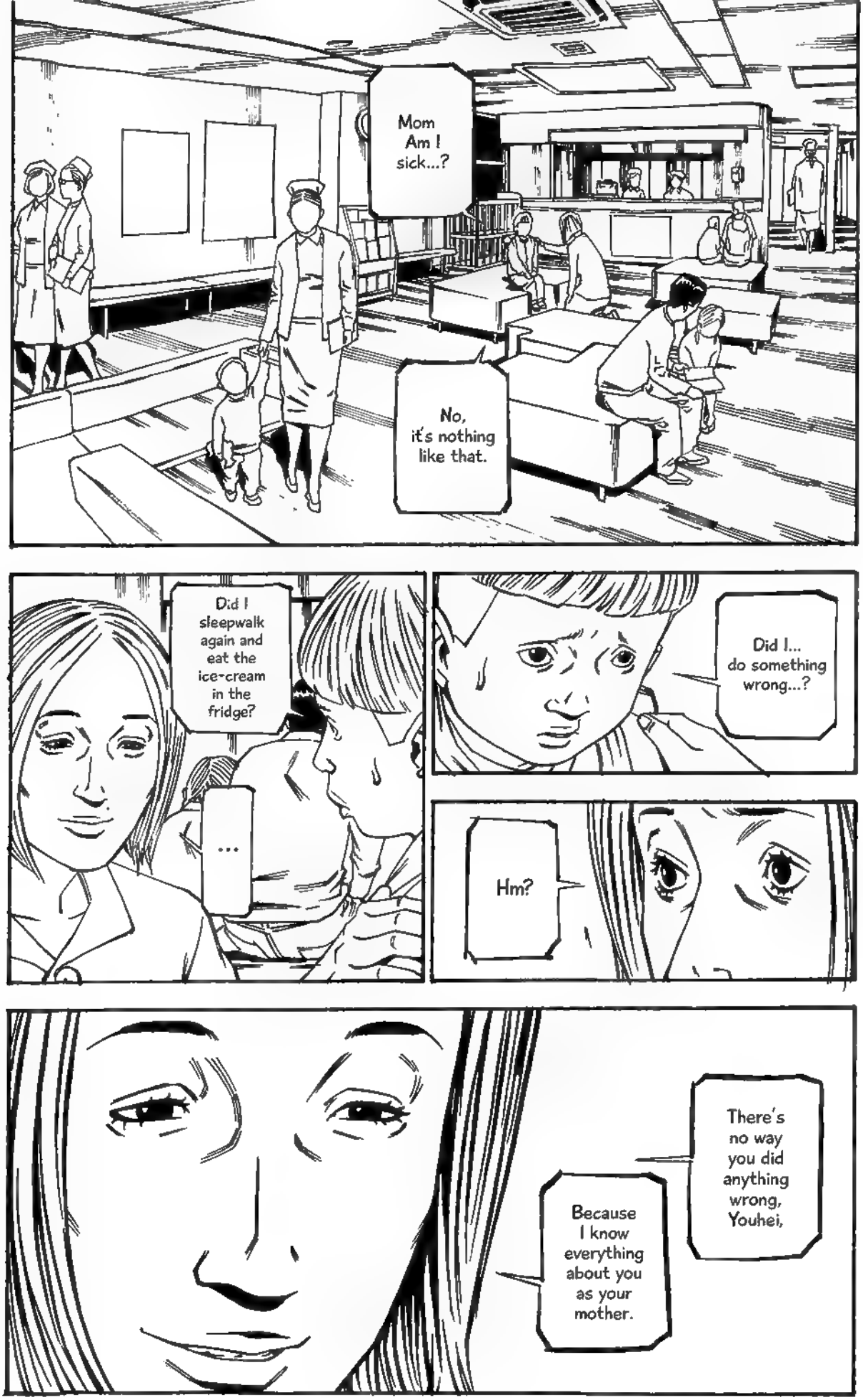
Youhei! Your racket!
Oh crap! I forgot I have a Tennis Club meeting today!
I'm off to school, mom!
He left his pajamas on the floor again...
It's because you stay up so late that you can't wake up early enough!
Yeah, sure, mom!
DASH

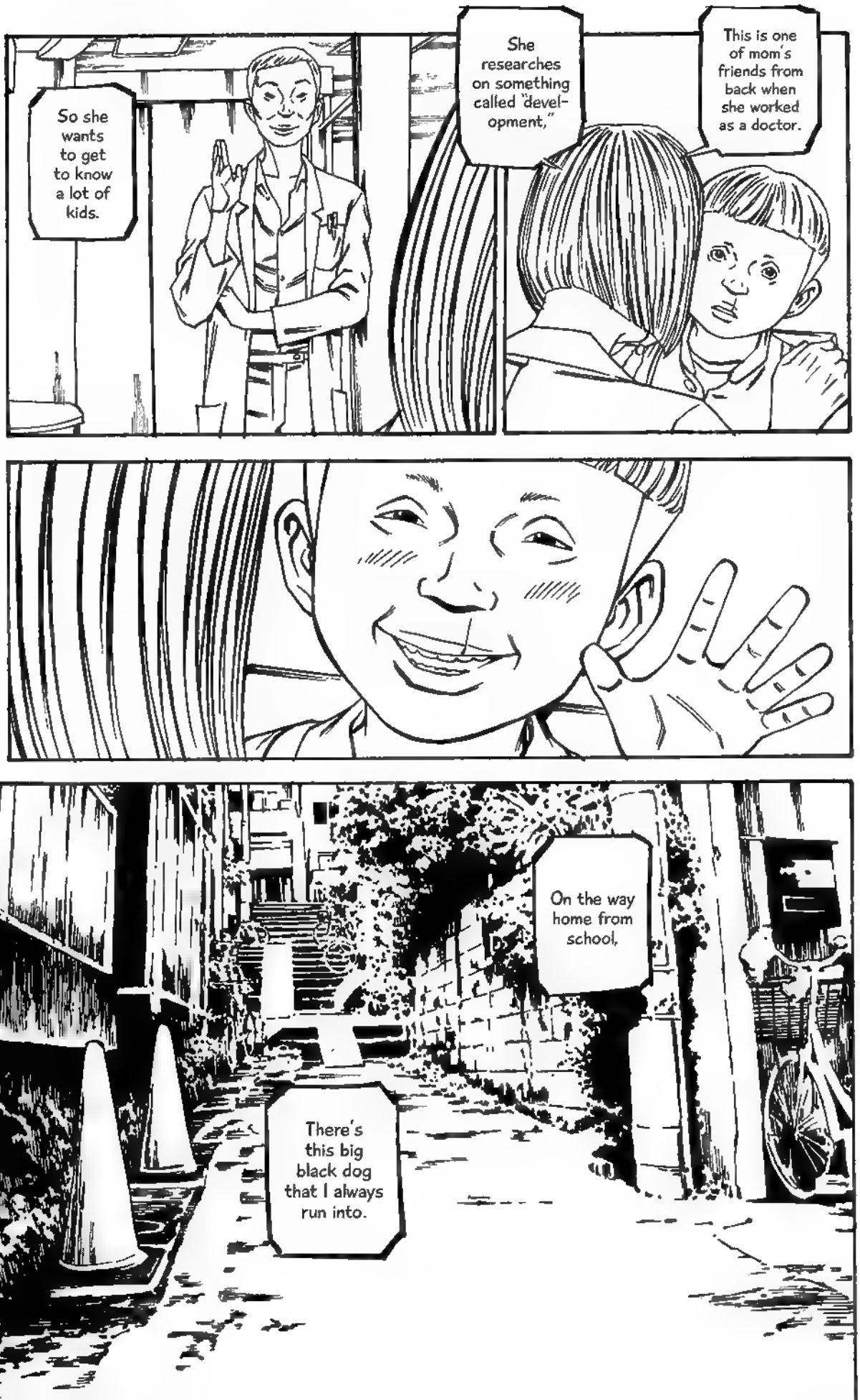

MELT
MELT
MELT
MELT
MELT
Huh...?

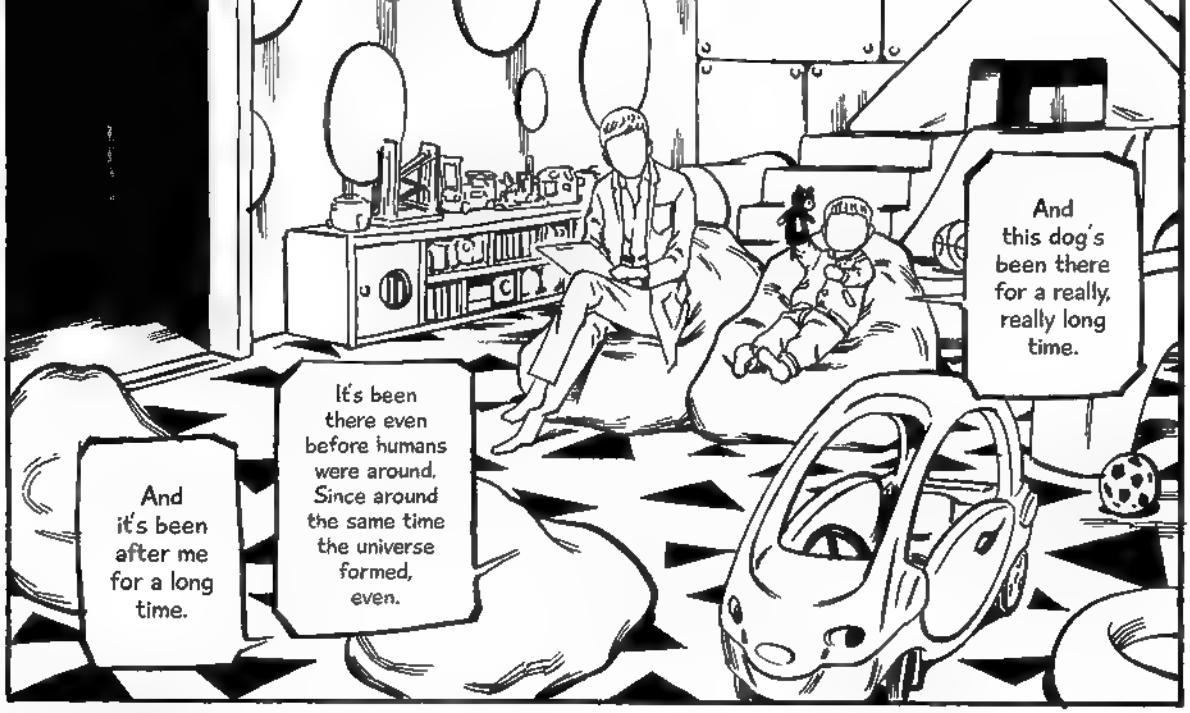

Of all the chicken the school was rearing...
And wringed the necks,
We regret to inform you that an intruder has trespassed upon school property at night,

Our deepest concern is towards the possible influence this incident may have on your children,
And so we ask parents and guardians to console your children...

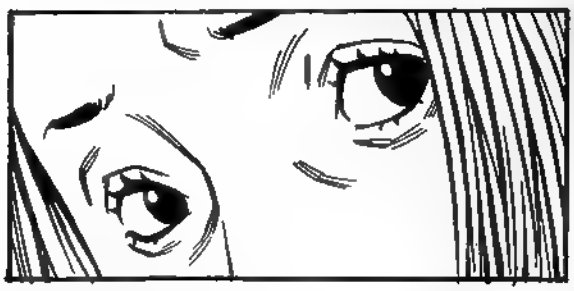

Thank you... for the message...

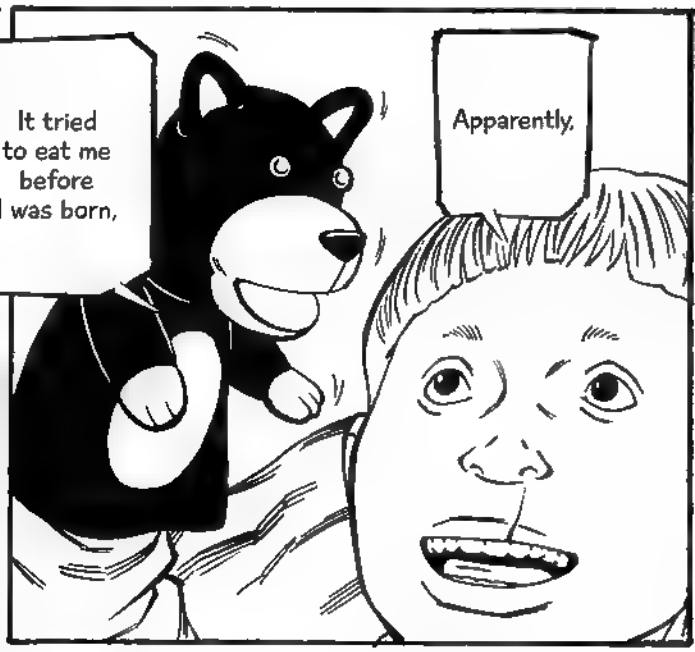

Mom
Am I
sick...?
No,
it's nothing
like that.
Did I
sleepwalk
again and
eat the
ice-cream
in the
fridge?
...
Did I...
do something
wrong...?
Hm?
There's
no way
you did
anything
wrong,
Youhei,
Because
I know
everything
about you
as your
mother.

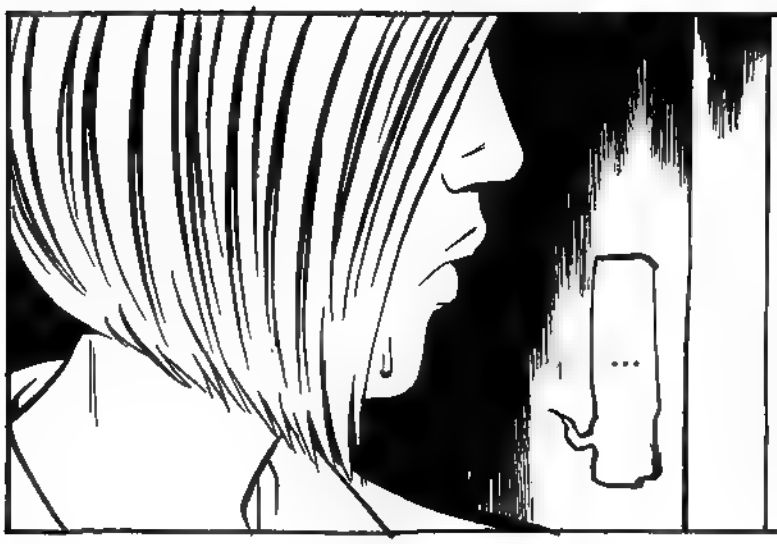

So she wants to get to know a lot of kids.
She researches on something called "development,"
This is one of mom's friends from back when she worked as a doctor.
On the way home from school,
There's this big black dog that I always run into.


And this dog's been there for a really, really long time.
It's been there even before humans were around. Since around the same time the universe formed, even.
And it's been after me for a long time.

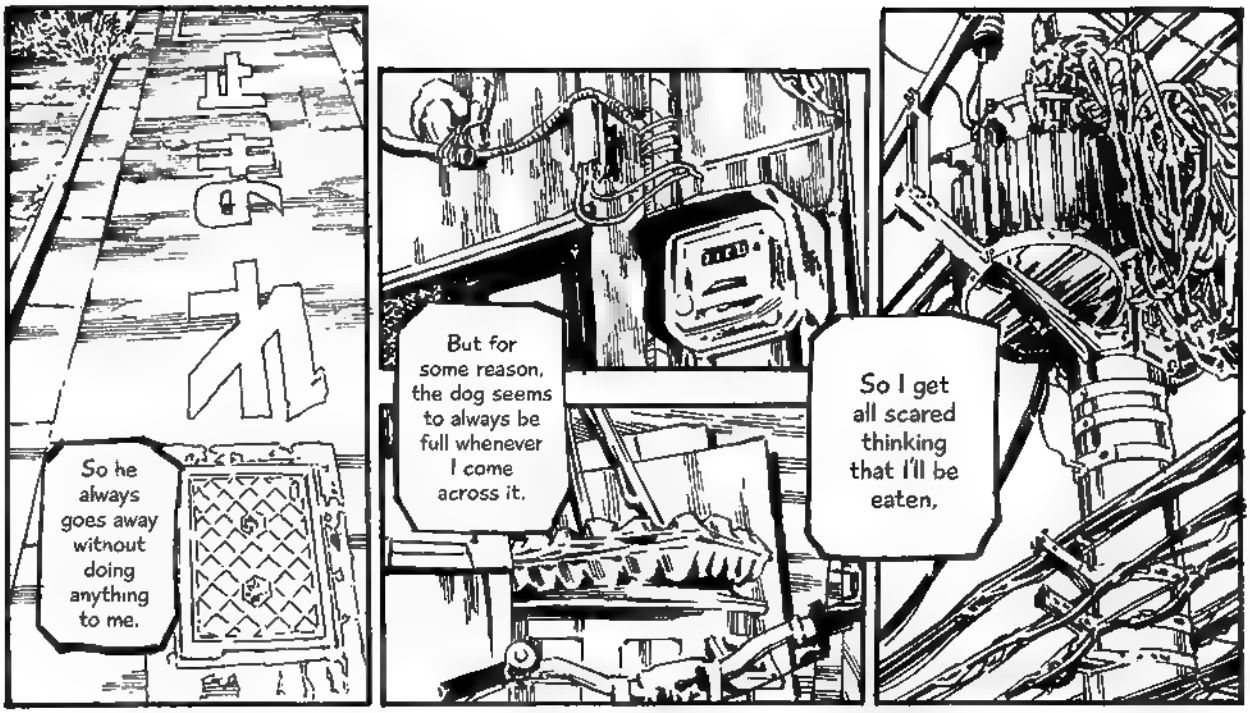
But it failed.

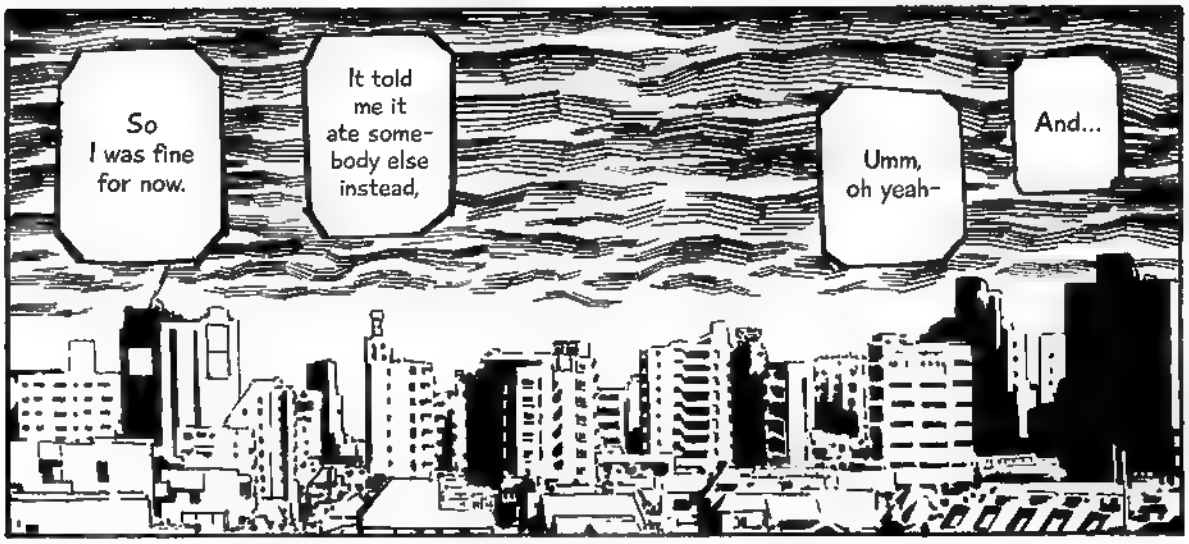


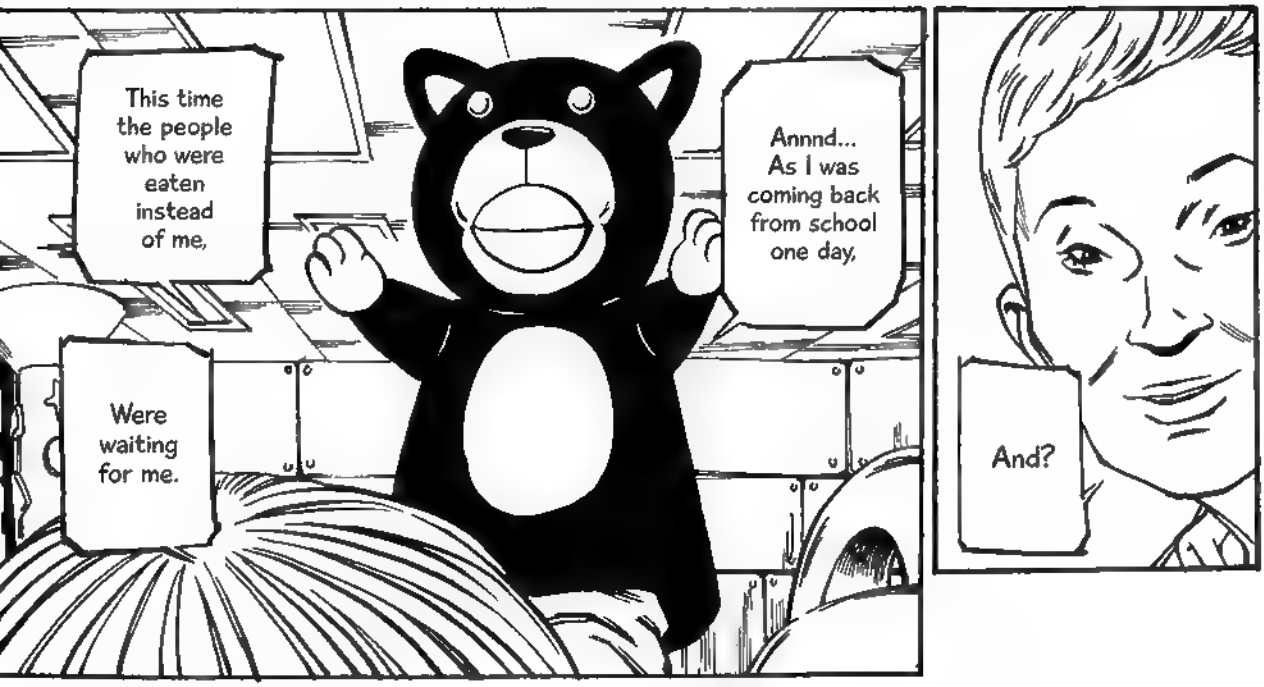

It tried to eat me before I was born,
Apparently,

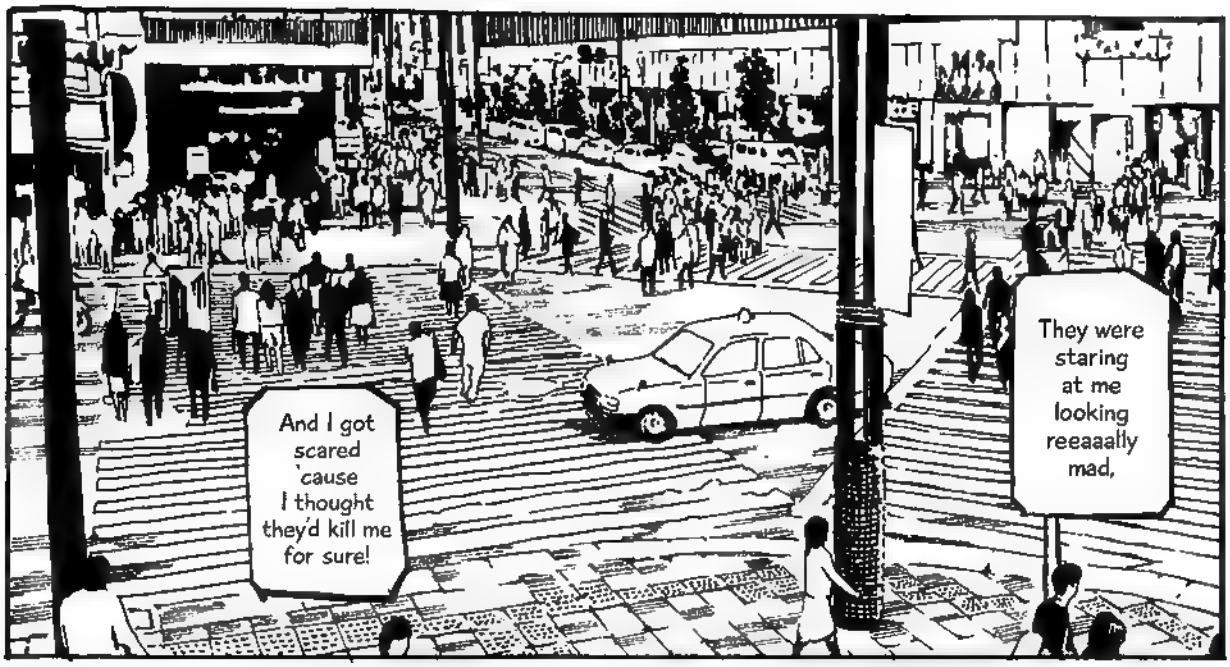

...

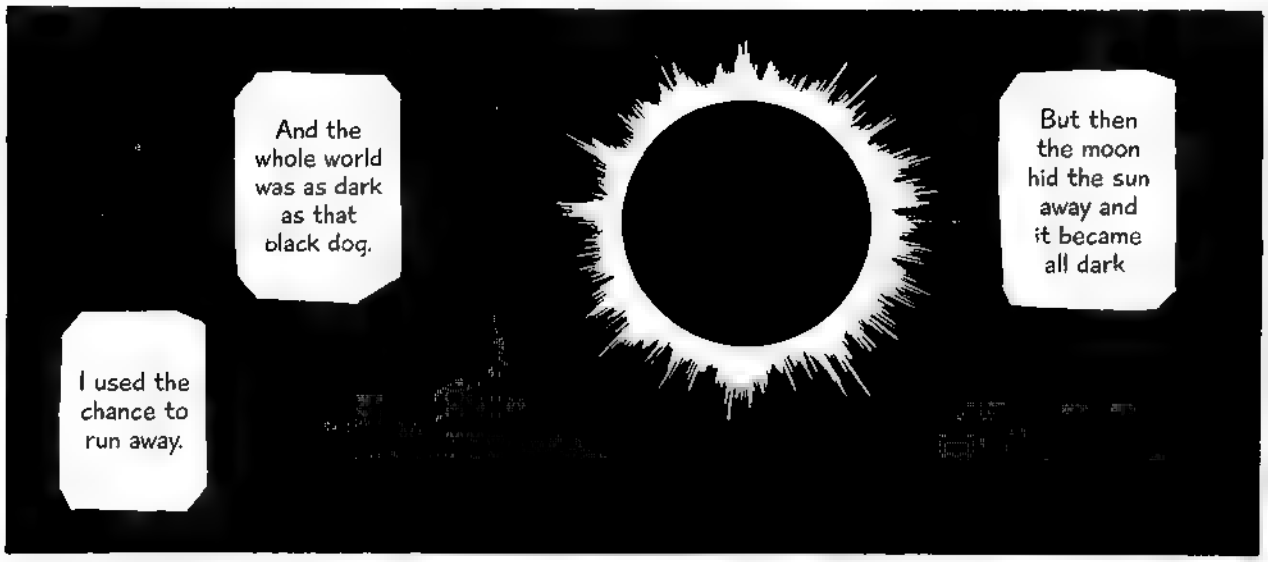
That's why it's been coming after me since.

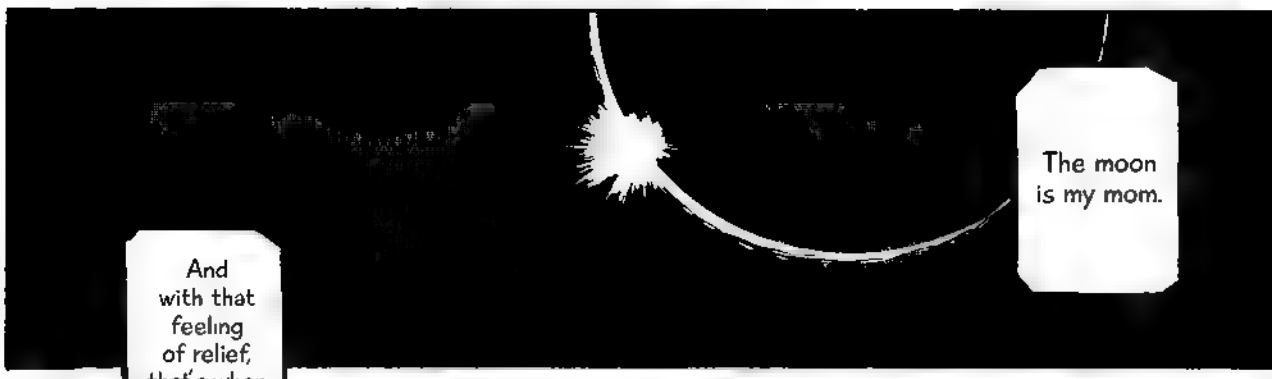

So he always goes away without doing anything to me.
But for some reason, the dog seems to always be full whenever I come across it.
So I get all scared thinking that I'll be eaten,

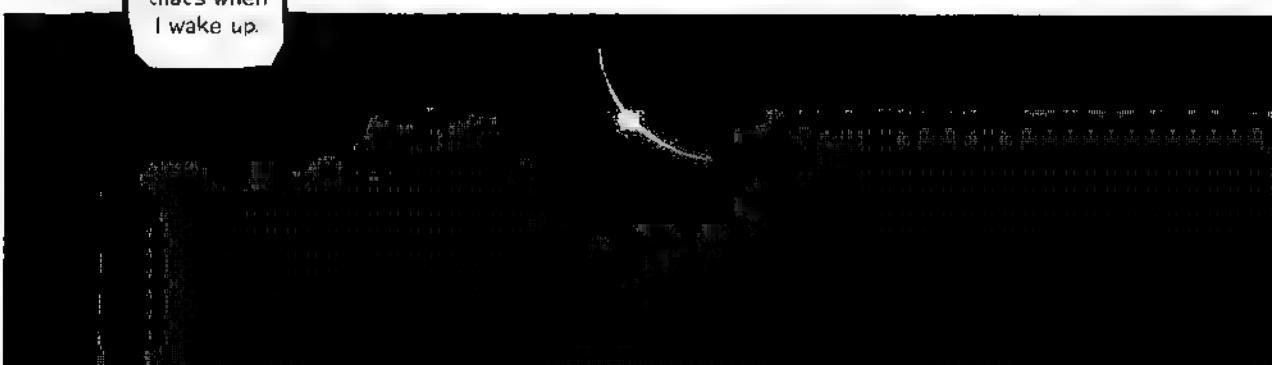

So I was fine for now.
It told me it ate somebody else instead,
Umm, oh yeah-
And...


This time the people who were eaten instead of me,
Were waiting for me.
Annnd... As I was coming back from school one day,
And?

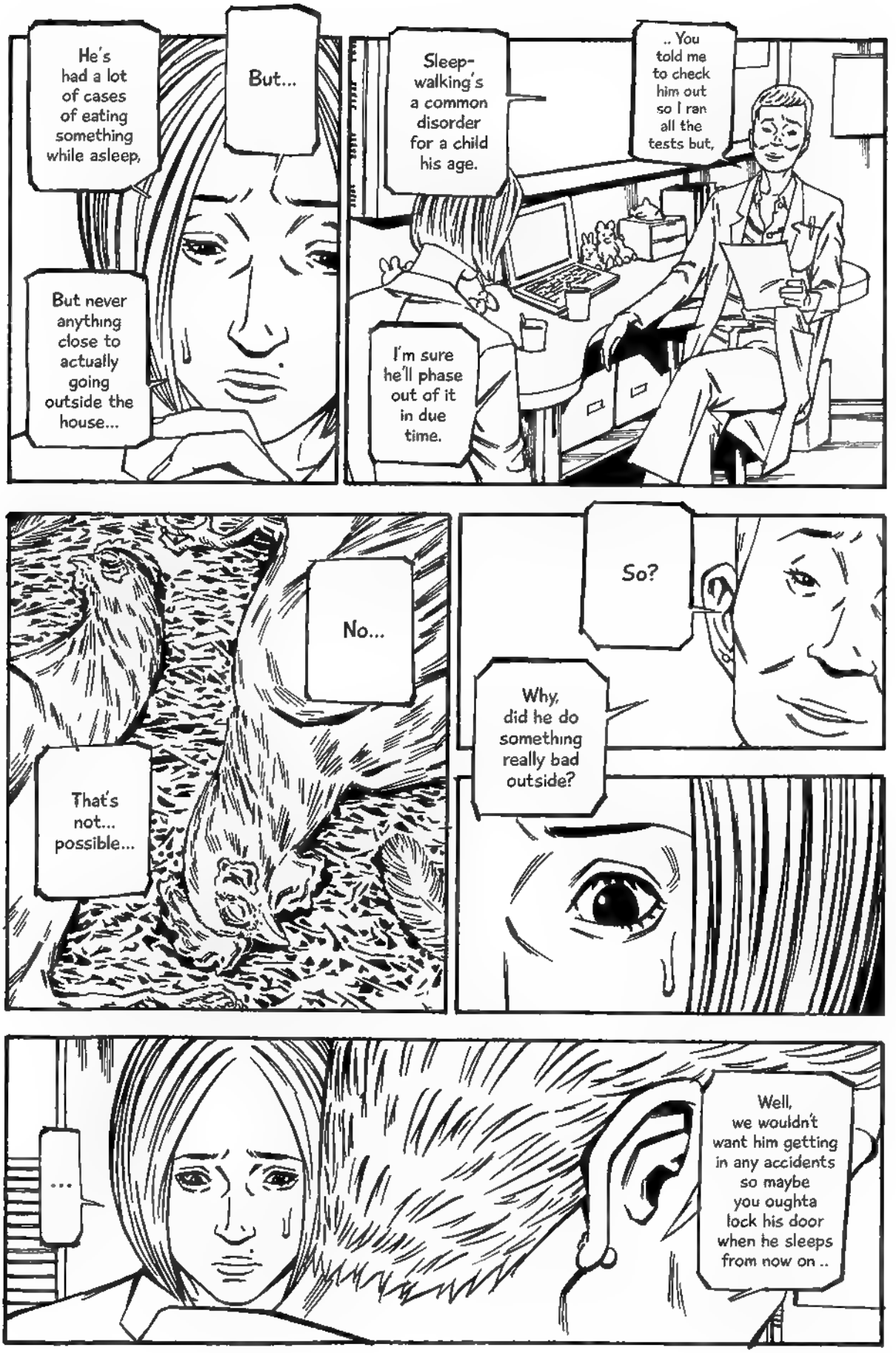

And I got scared 'cause I thought they'd kill me for sure!
They were staring at me looking reeaaally mad,

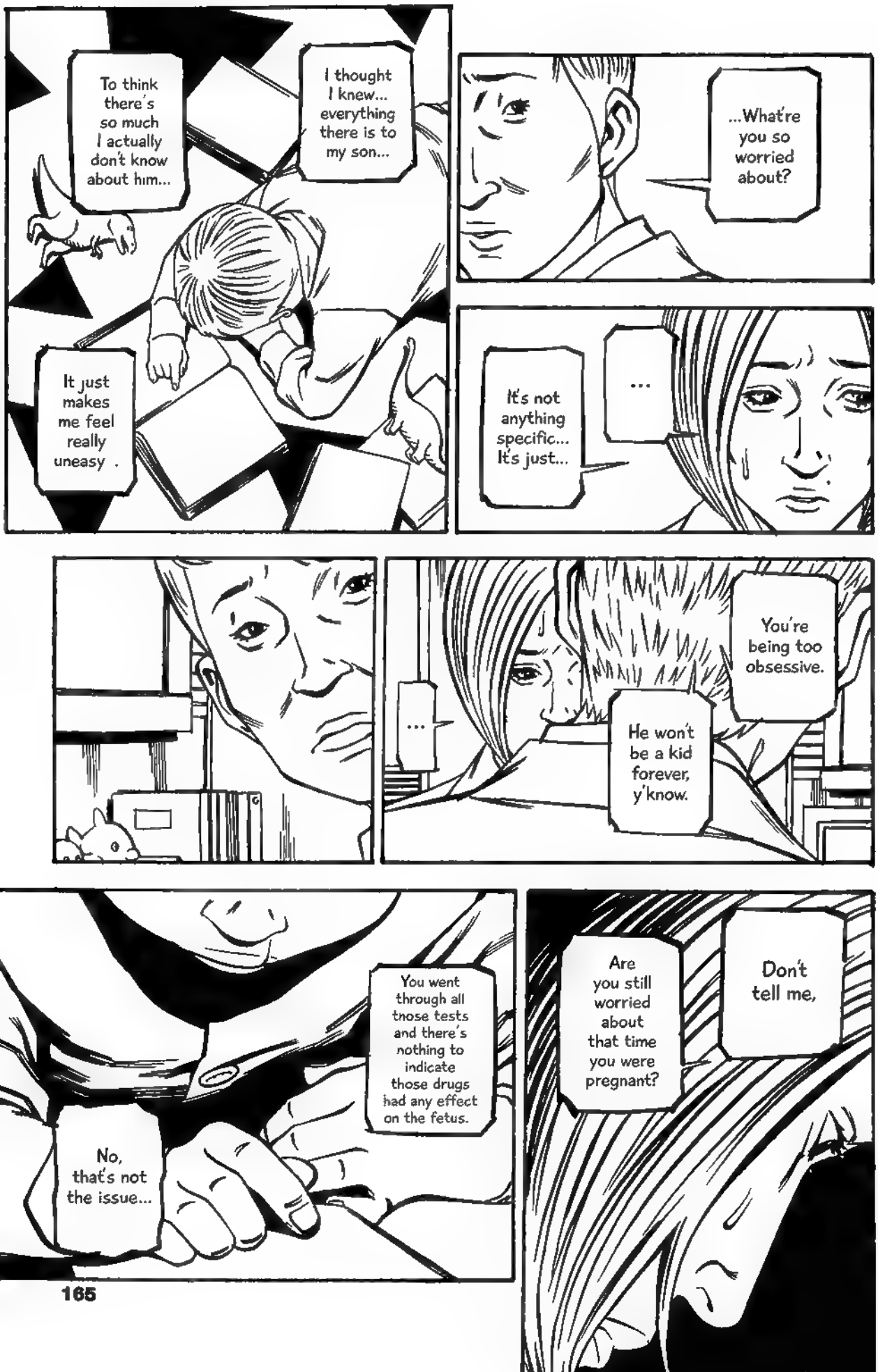

I used the chance to run away.
And the whole world was as dark as that black dog.
But then the moon hid the sun away and it became all dark


And with that feeling of relief, that's when I wake up.
The moon is my mom.

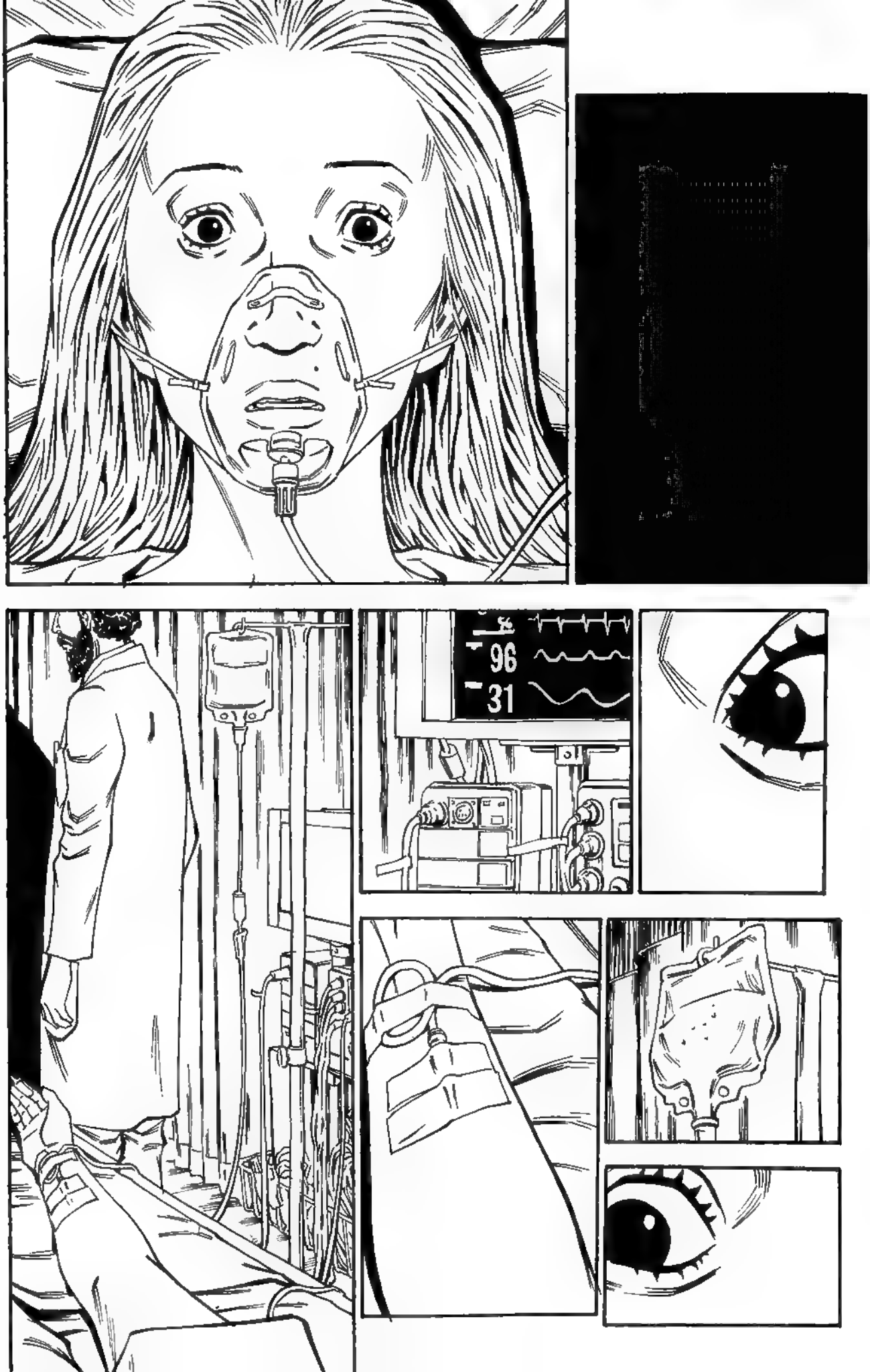


He seems to be a good, bright kid.
Though he's a little too attached to his mom, if you ask me.
That's the first time I ever heard that story...
Well, a kid's not gonna tell his parents every single dream he has, you know.
There wasn't really anything problematic in the dream.
You're a counselor for kids now, so I'm sure you understand too, right?
I can't detect anything abnormal in his personality.
And the same goes for his behavior...
I see...

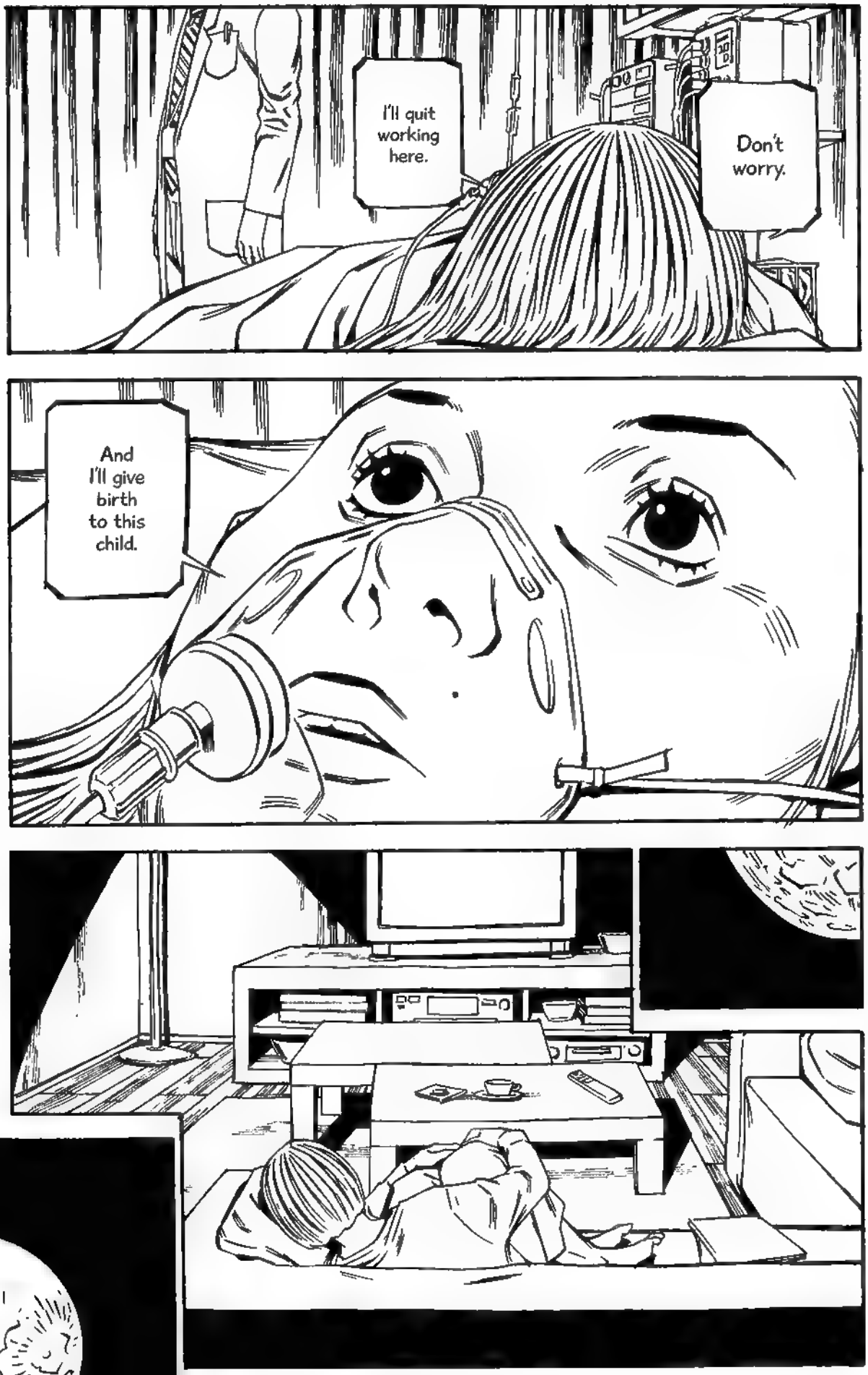

He's had a lot of cases of eating something while asleep,
But...
But never anything close to actually going outside the house...
Sleep-walking's a common disorder for a child his age.
.. You told me to check him out so I ran all the tests but,
I'm sure he'll phase out of it in due time.
No...
That's not... possible...
So?
Why, did he do something really bad outside?
...
Well, we wouldn't want him getting in any accidents so maybe you oughta lock his door when he sleeps from now on ..


To think there's so much I actually don't know about him...
I thought I knew... everything there is to my son...
It just makes me feel really uneasy .
...What're you so worried about?
It's not anything specific... It's just...
...
You're being too obsessive.
He won't be a kid forever, y'know.
...
You went through all those tests and there's nothing to indicate those drugs had any effect on the fetus.
No, that's not the issue...
Are you still worried about that time you were pregnant?
Don't tell me,

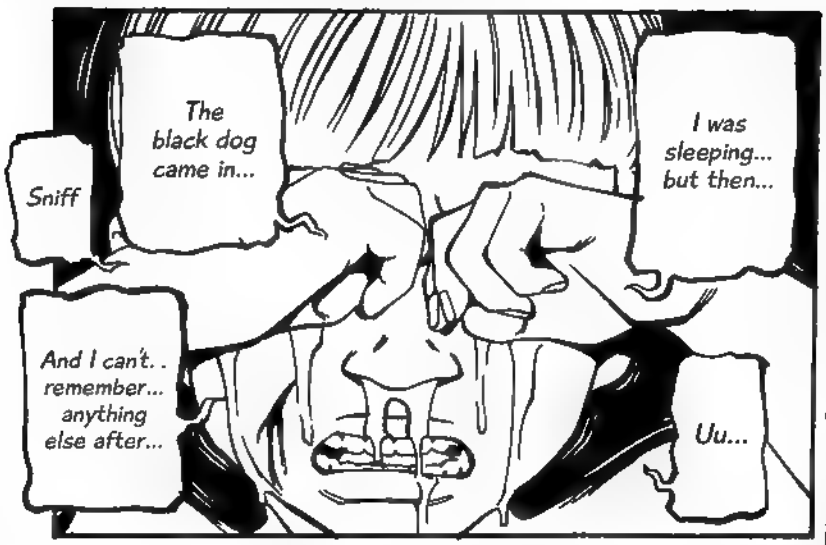
Somehow seeped into my child...?
Is it possible... that my sin from back then...
Back then... to Youhei... I almost...
I...
You shouldn't blame yourself too much.
Look, I understand how you might feel guilty, but ..
Is that really something a former psychiatrist should be saying?
Otherwise, you won't be able to get over it.


96
31

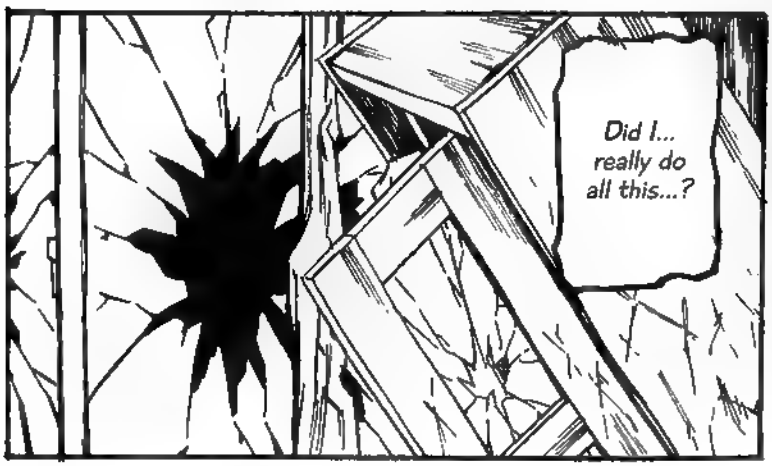
You were this close to killing your baby too...!
...
Are you for real...!?
A psychiatrist trying to commit suicide with sedatives for her patients...?
Is this what you secretly wanted...?
News of this is gonna spread through the whole hospital now...
Guess your wish couldn't come true then...
What're you-!?

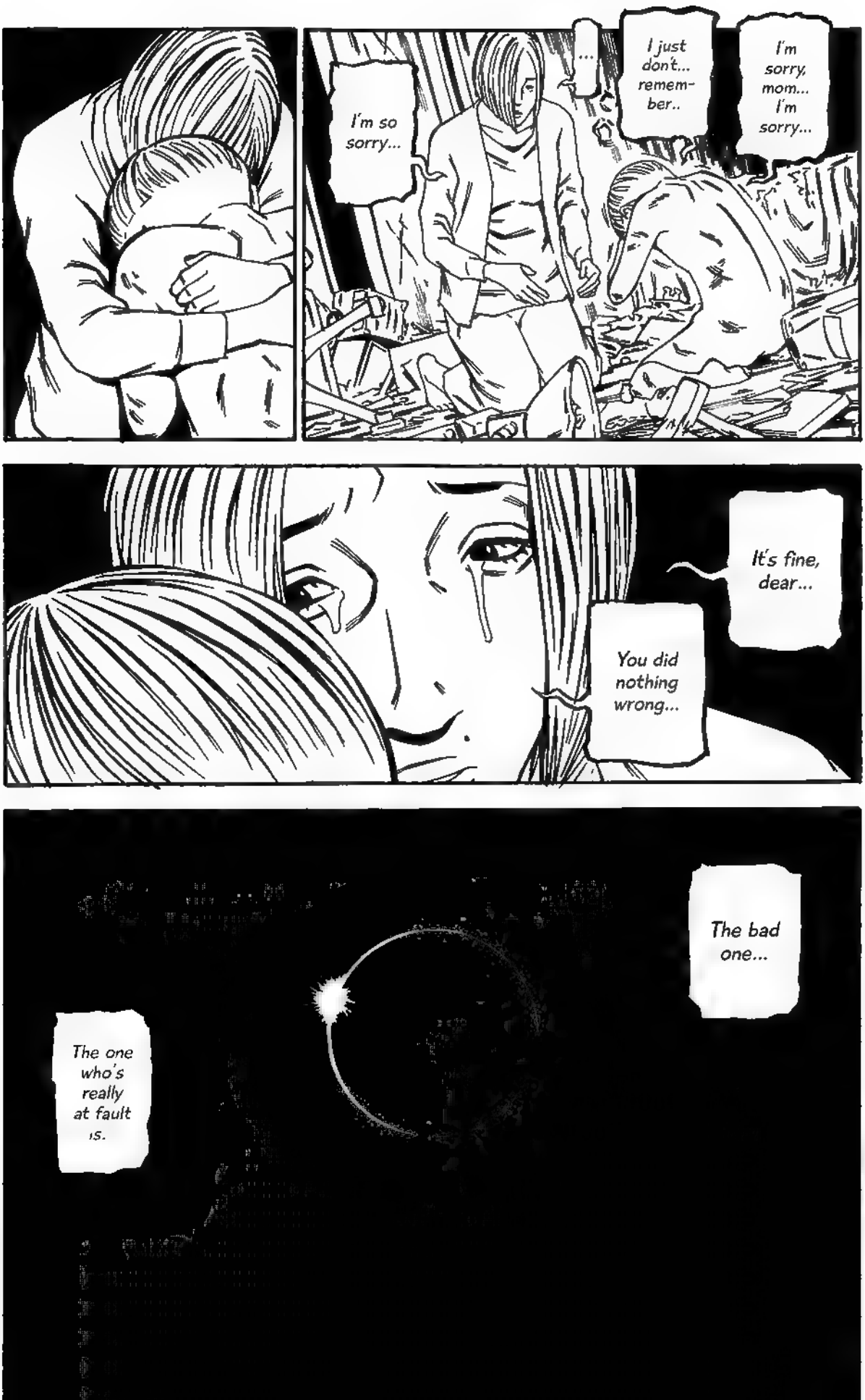

I'll quit working here.
Don't worry.
And I'll give birth to this child.

Waahhh..
Uuu...
Uu...
Waahhh...


Sniff
The black dog came in...
I was sleeping... but then...
And I can't.. remember... anything else after...
Uu...

Uu...
Uu...


Did I... really do all this...?

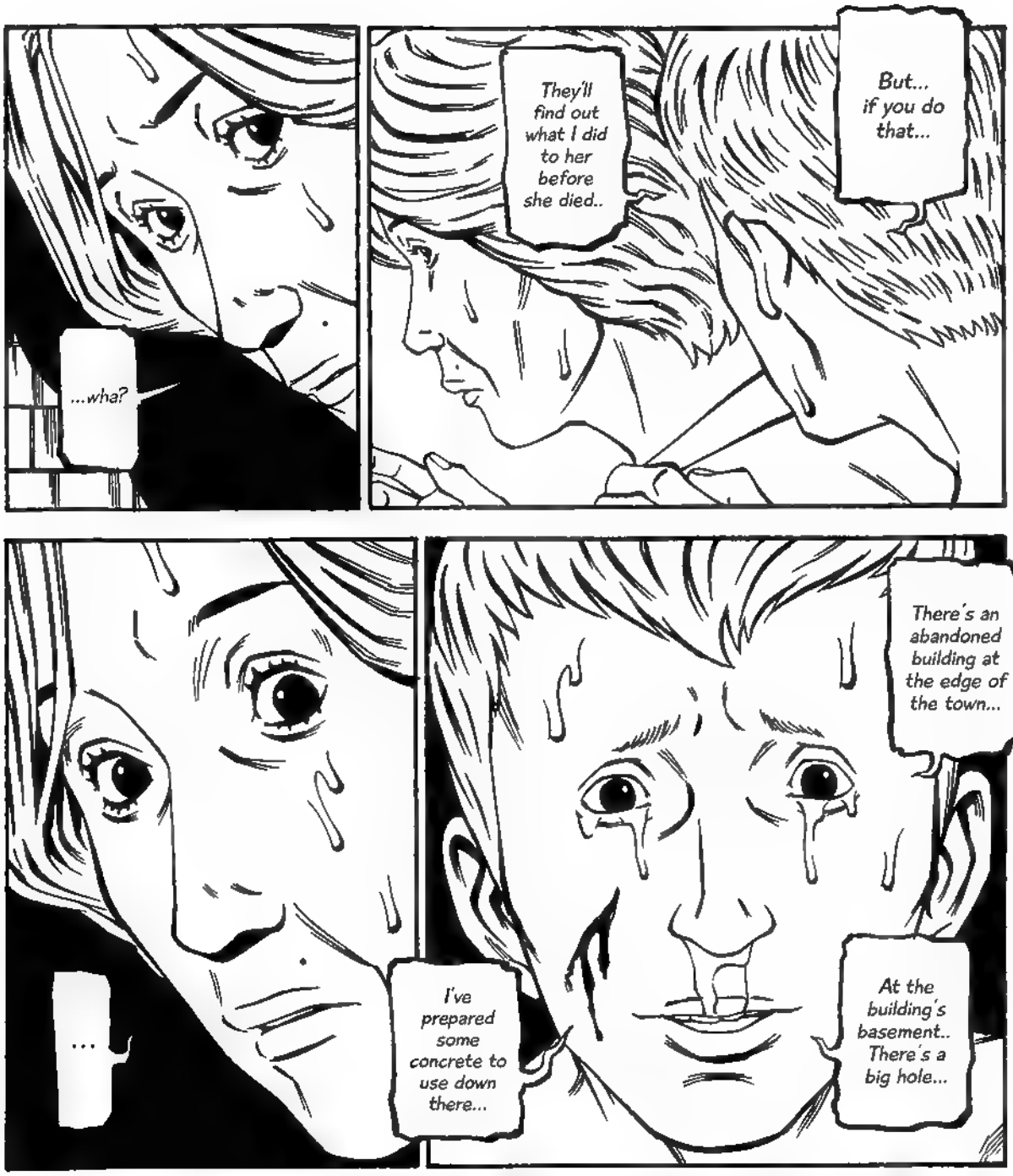

I'm so sorry...
...
I just don't... remember..
I'm sorry, mom... I'm sorry...
It's fine, dear...
You did nothing wrong...
The bad one...
The one who's really at fault is.

Uu...
I'm sorry...
I'm sorry, mother...

Sorry...
Uuu...
Sorry...
Uuu...
Sorry...

Your mother did this...
I have to... call the police...

Uu... Sniff.. Uuu...
Uuu...


...wha?
They'll find out what I did to her before she died..
But... if you do that...
...
I've prepared some concrete to use down there...
There's an abandoned building at the edge of the town...
At the building's basement.. There's a big hole...

BLOCK 3-36

[Youhei – 3]

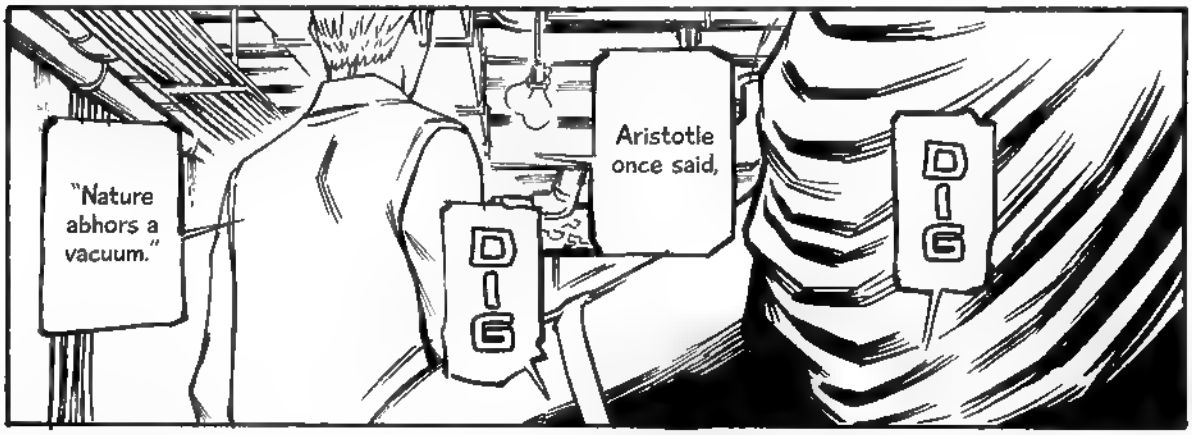
POUR
SWING
SWING

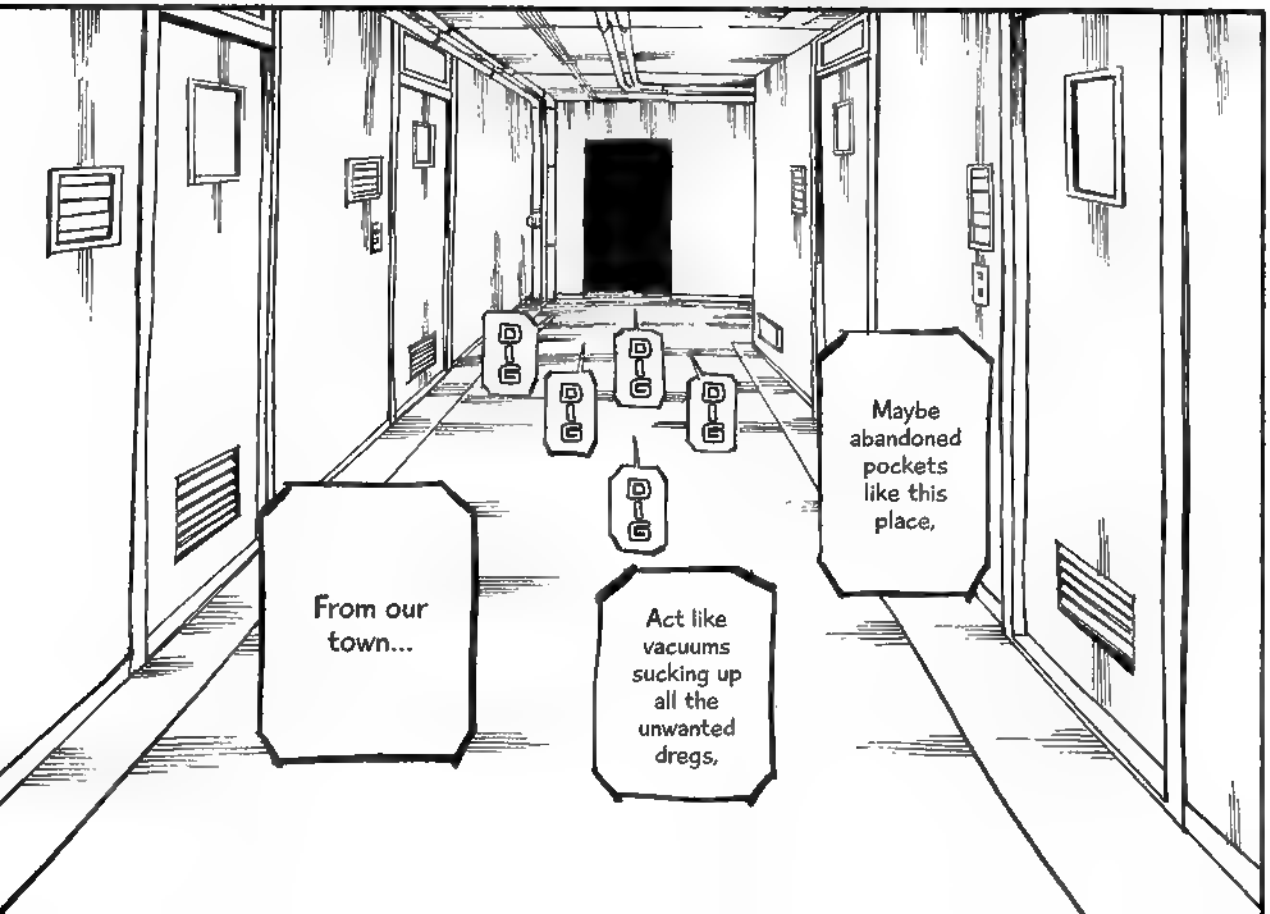
POUR
POUR
POUR

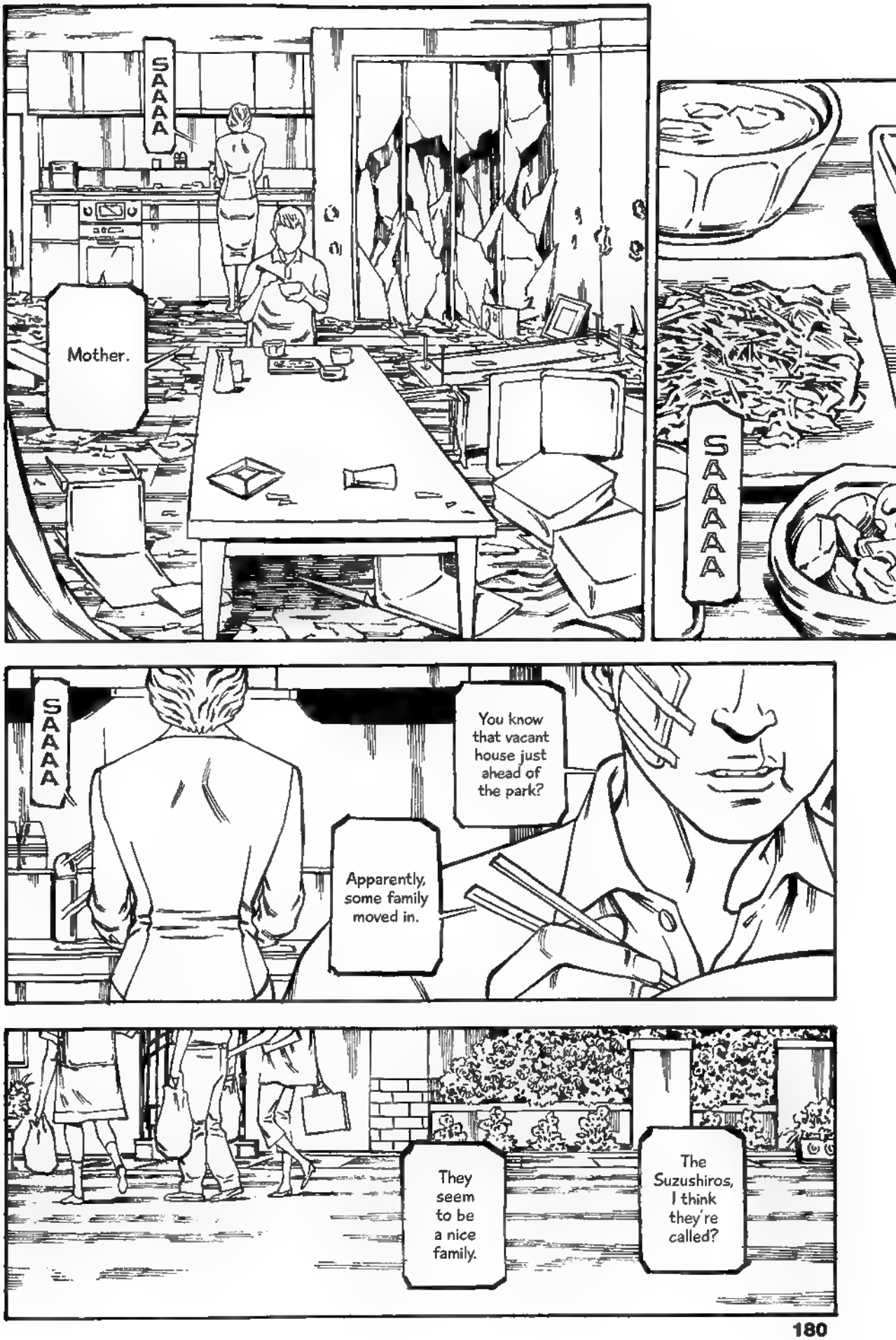
POUR
POUR
POUR

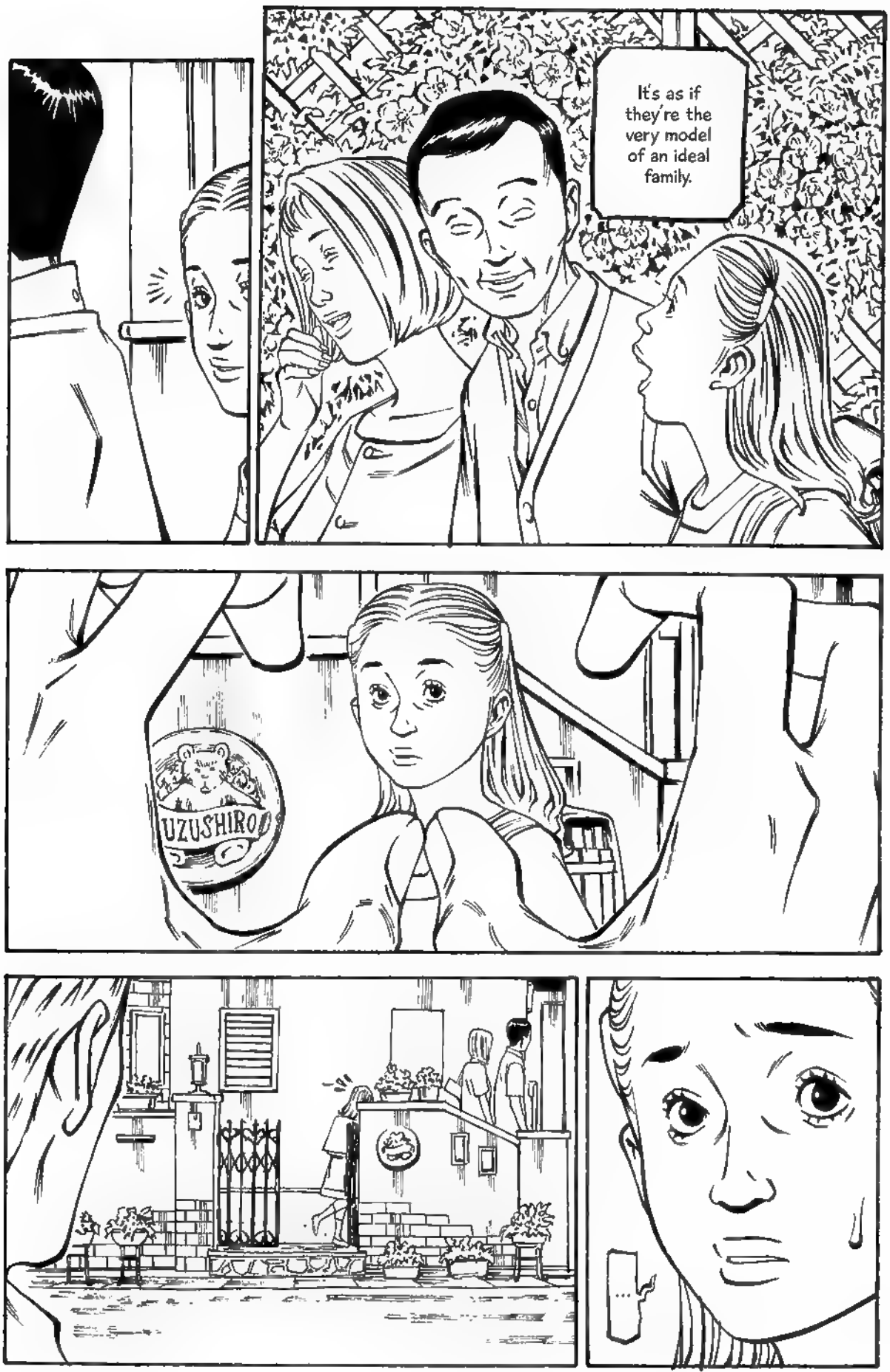
I really wanted to play tennis with her
SWING
SWING
DOOR
DOOR
JANGLE
JANGLE
I'm glad I asked you to pick out a gift.
She really liked the necklace I gave her
Your clothes will get dirty.
Are you planning to return to town dressed like that?
DIG

DIG
DIG
DIG
SLOOOWN


"Nature abhors a vacuum."
Aristotle once said,
DIG
DIG

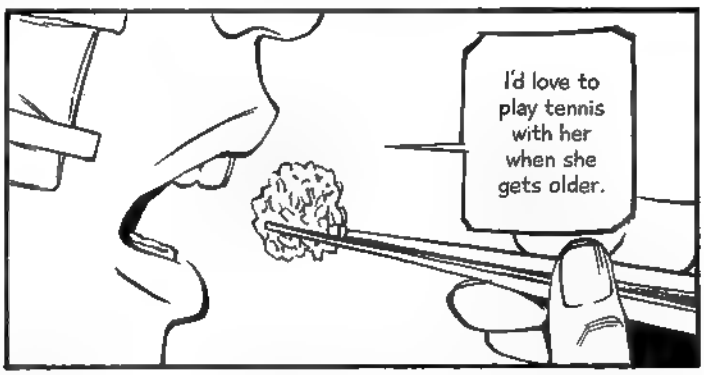

DIG
DIG
DIG
DIG
DIG
From our town...
Act like vacuums sucking up all the unwanted dregs,
Maybe abandoned pockets like this place,

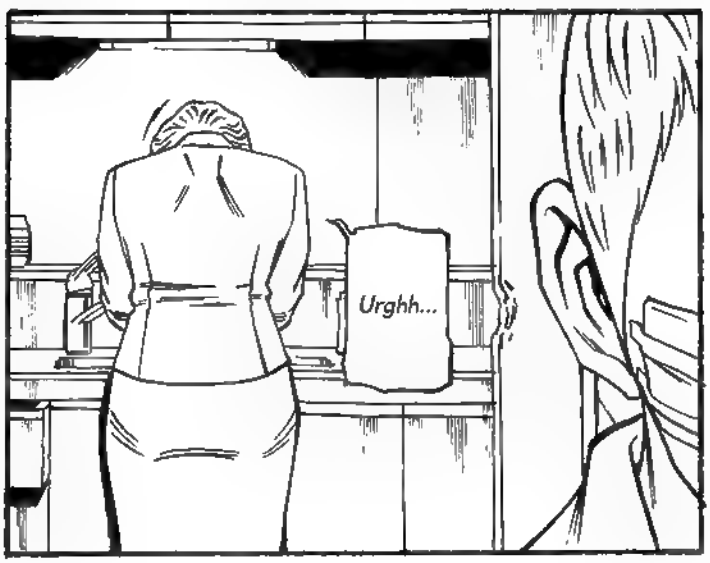

SAAAA
Mother.
SAAAAA
SAAAA
You know that vacant house just ahead of the park?
Apparently, some family moved in.
They seem to be a nice family.
The Suzushiros, I think they're called?


It's as if they're the very model of an ideal family.
UZUSHIRO
...

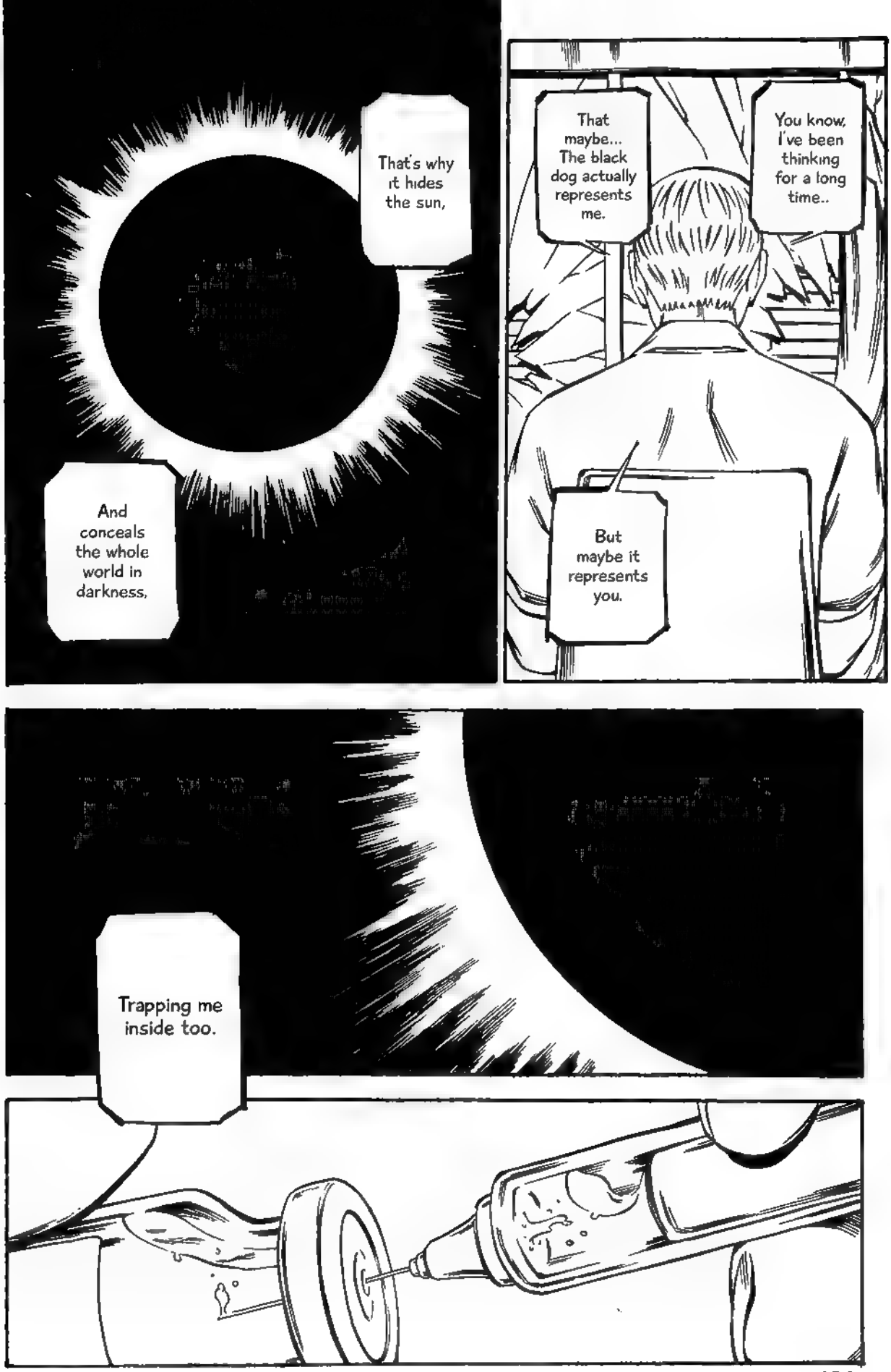
She's very pretty.
Their daughter... Her name is Mizuki.

Urp...
Hurl
Cough

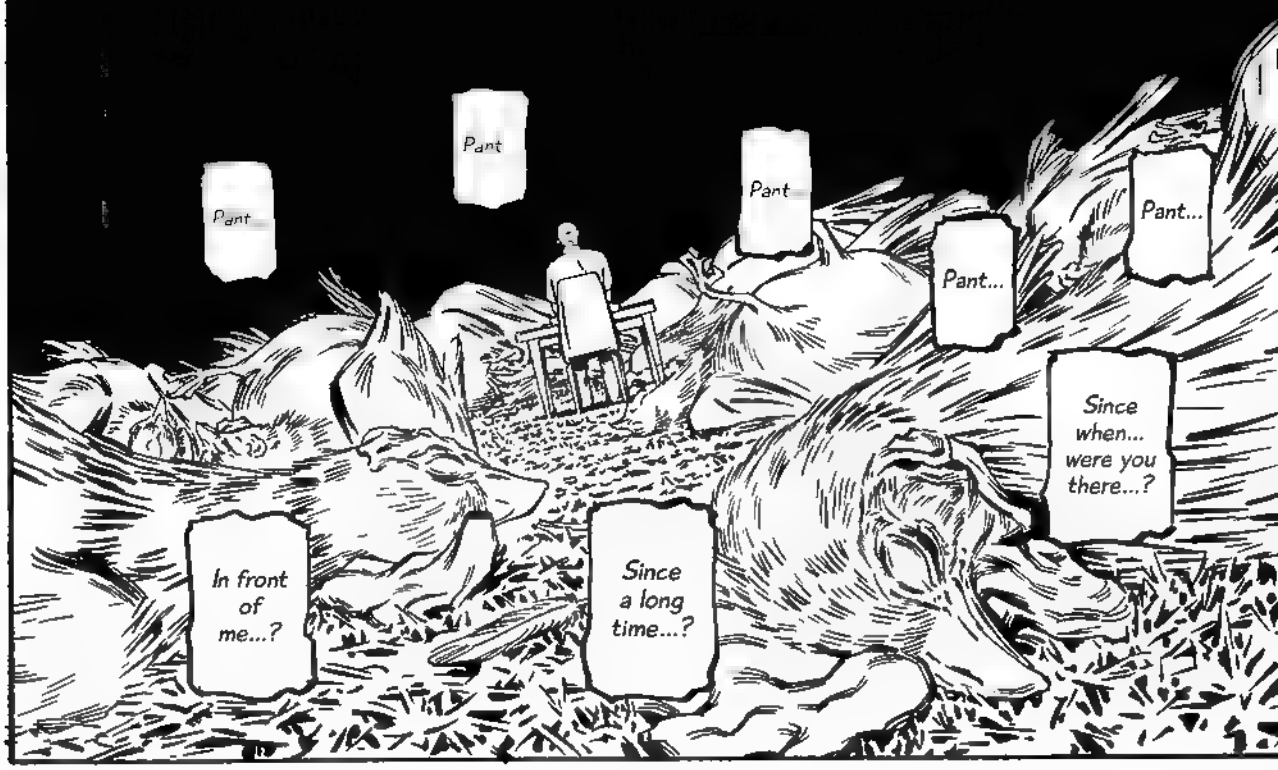

I'd love to play tennis with her when she gets older.

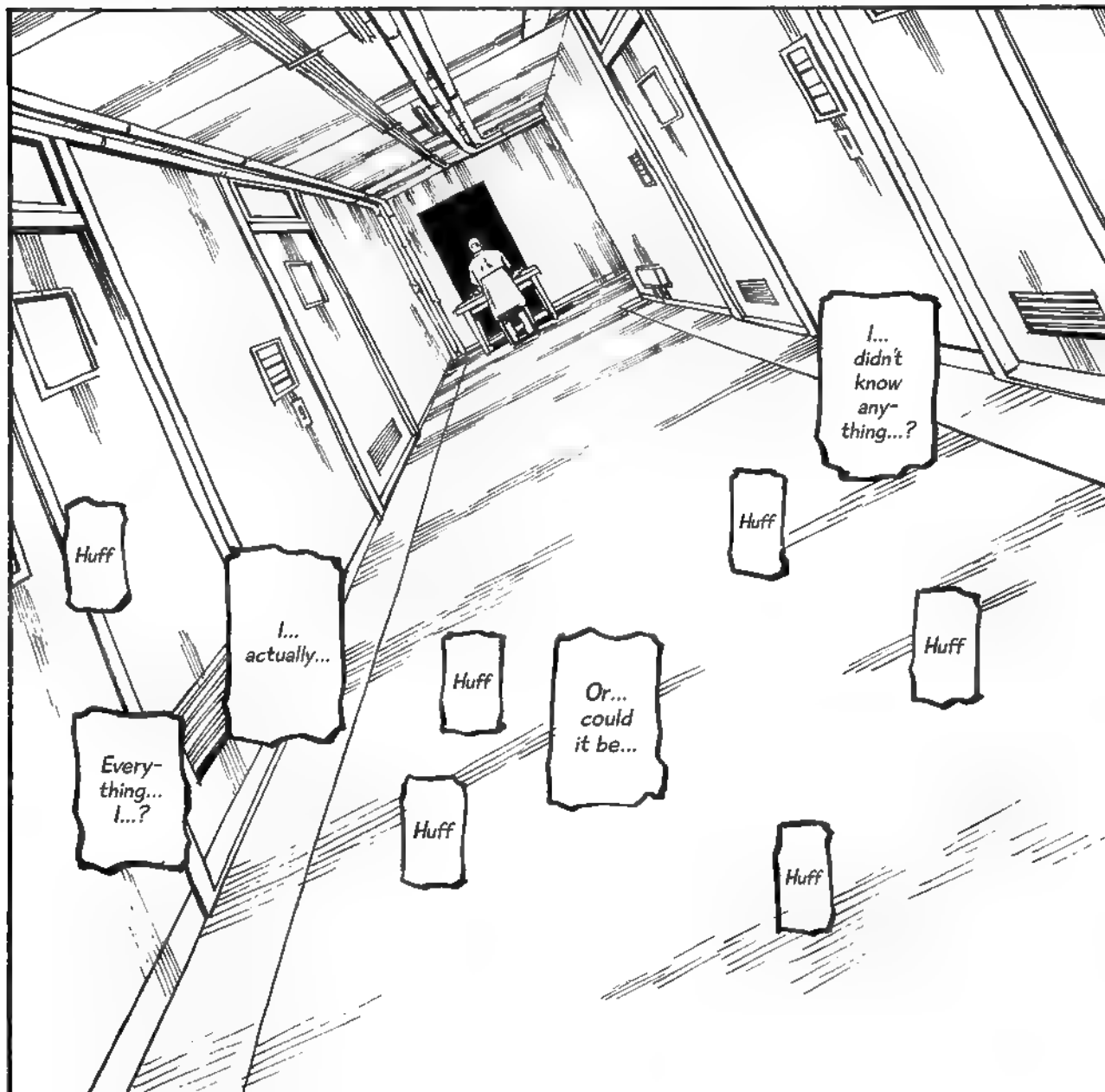

Urghh...

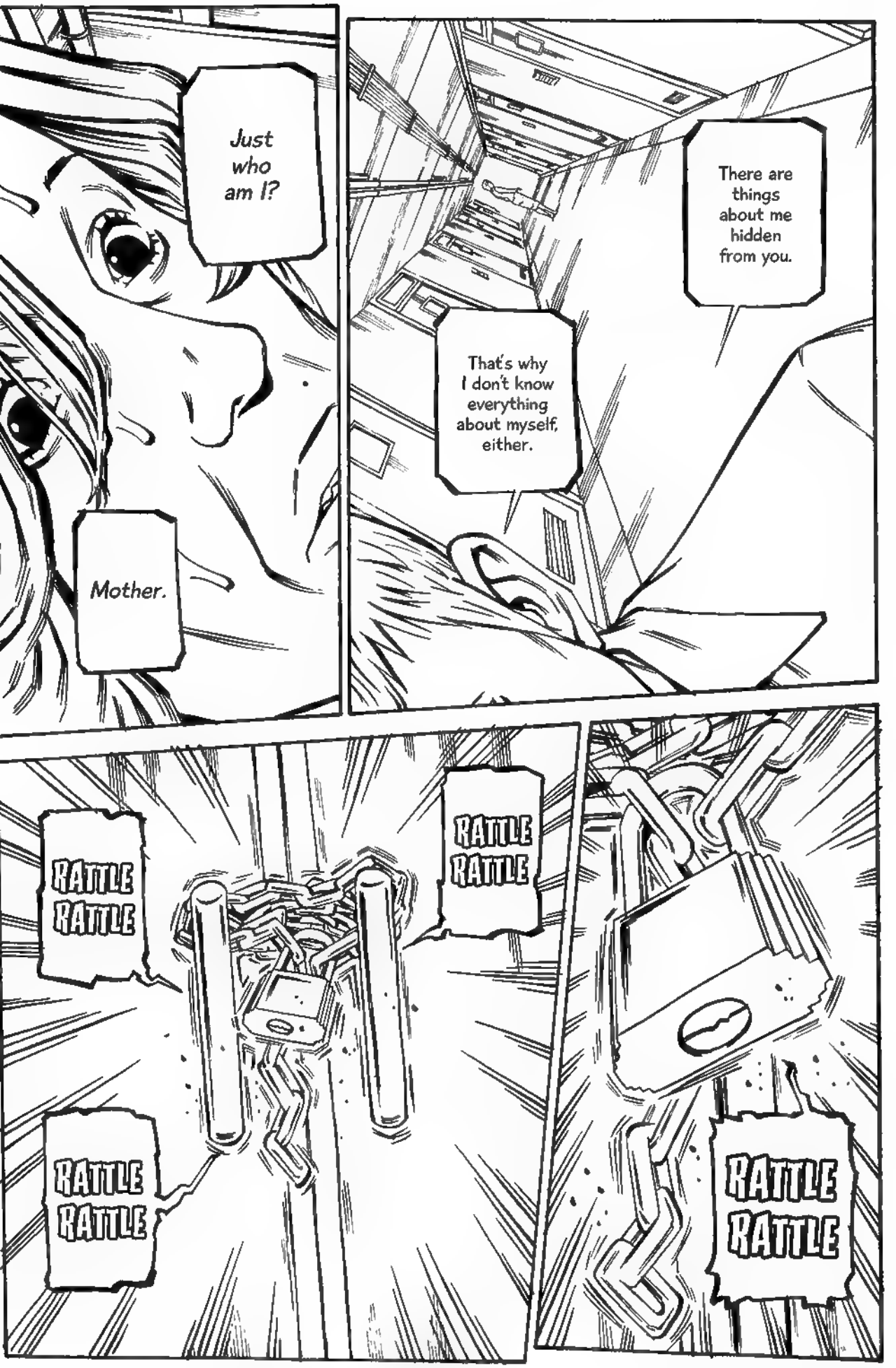
TWITCH
Mother.
Urghh...
Cough
Cough
Wha...?
Guhh...
Thanks for everything.
Was eaten in my stead by the black dog.
I'm sure that girl...

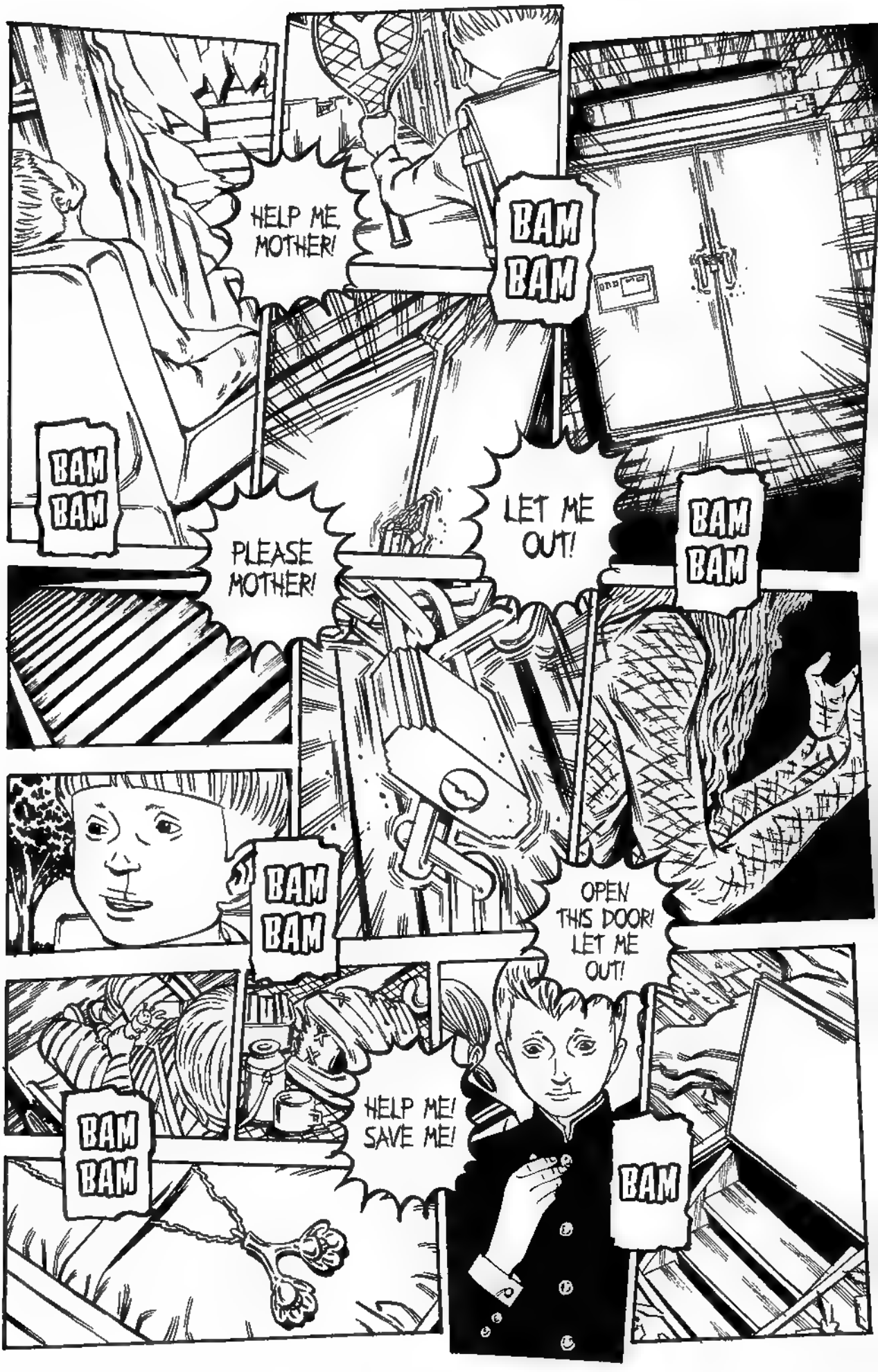

That's why it hides the sun,
And conceals the whole world in darkness,
You know, I've been thinking for a long time..
That maybe... The black dog actually represents me.
But maybe it represents you.
Trapping me inside too.

I never actually had them.
The dreams about the black dog, I mean.
...Just kidding.
Urghh...
It was just something I made in the spur of the moment when I was talking with that doctor
Huff... huff...
Huff...
Huff...
Cough
Cough
Huff... huff...
Rwee hhhhh
Rwughh
Urp...


Pant
Pant
Pant
Pant...
Pant...
Since when... were you there...?
In front of me...?
Since a long time...?


I... didn't know anything...?
Huff
Huff
I... actually...
Huff
Huff
Or... could it be...
Every-thing... I...?
Huff
Huff


Just who am I?
Mother.
There are things about me hidden from you.
That's why I don't know everything about myself, either.
RATTLE RATTLE
RATTLE RATTLE
RATTLE RATTLE
RATTLE RATTLE


HELP ME, MOTHER!
BAM BAM
BAM BAM
PLEASE MOTHER!
LET ME OUT!
BAM BAM
BAM BAM
OPEN THIS DOOR! LET ME OUT!
BAM BAM
HELP ME! SAVE ME!
BAM

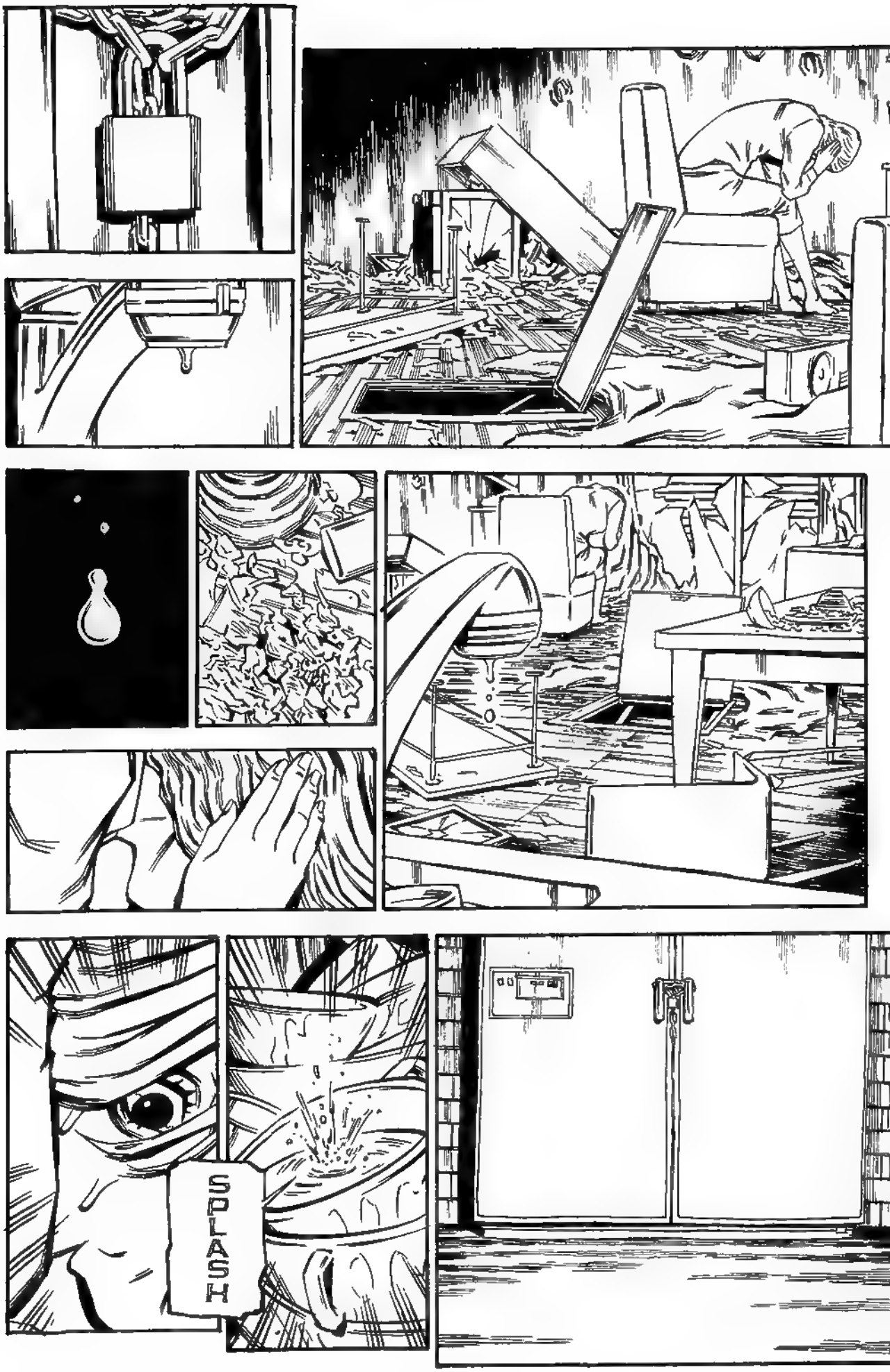
BAM BAM
AND DARK!
BAM
IT'S COLD HERE!
I CAN'T BREATHE!
BAM BAM!
BAM BAM
I'M SUFFO-CATING, MOTHER!
LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT!
BAM BAM!

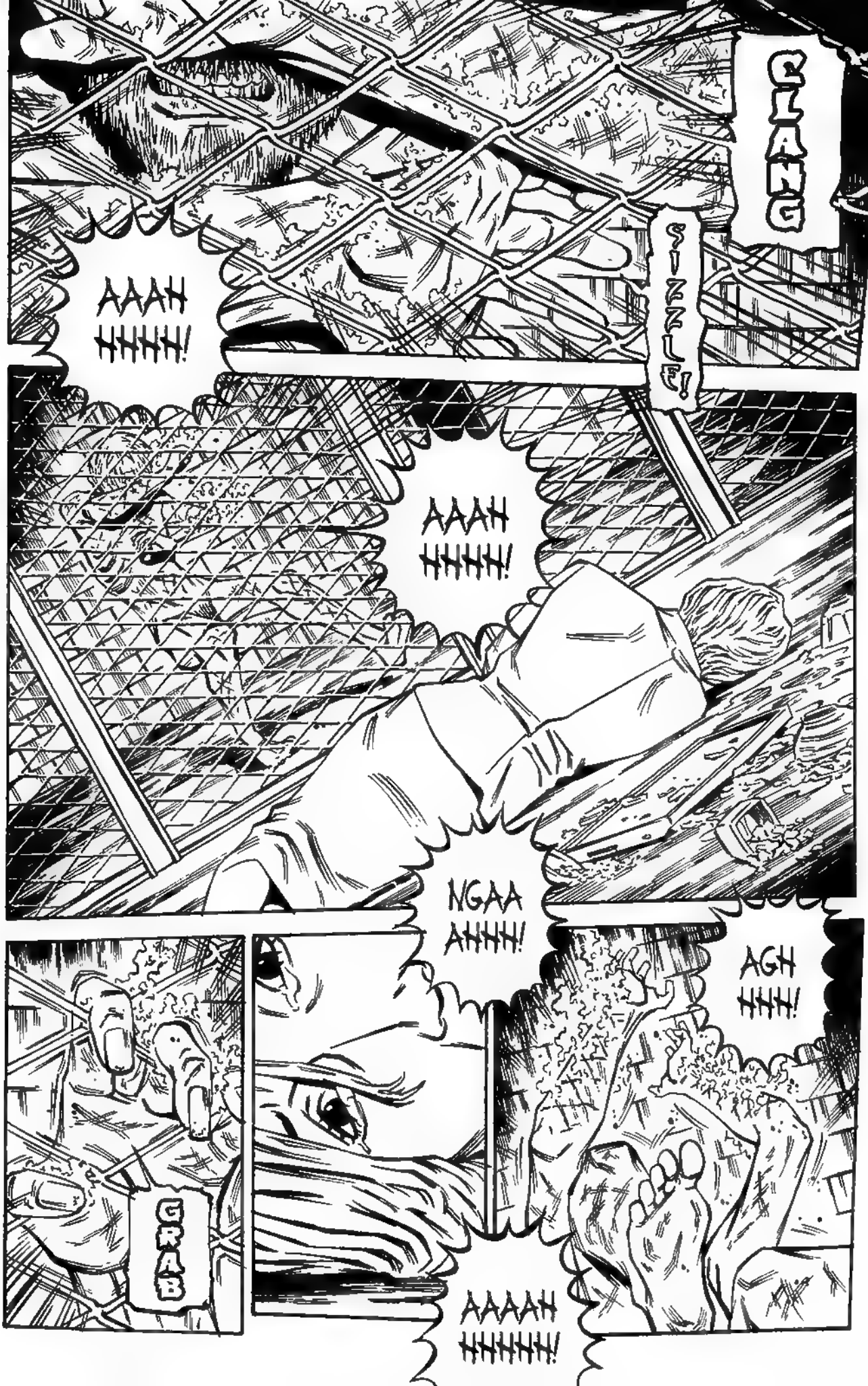
BAM BAM
MOTHER!
MOTHER!
MOTHER!
BAM BAM!
BAM
MOTHER!
MOTHER!
MOTHER!
BAM!
BAM!

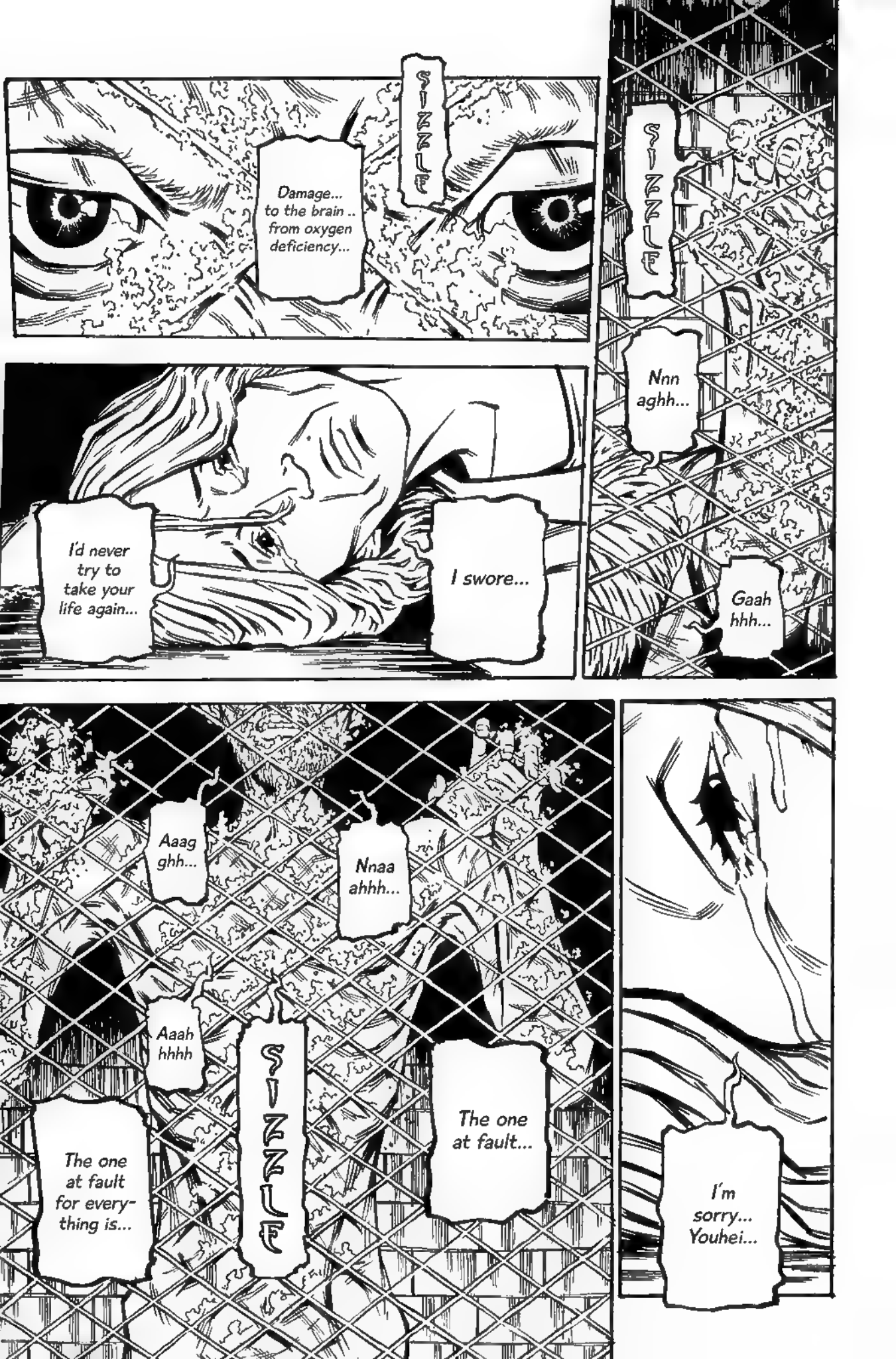
MOTHER!
BAM BAM!
BAM BAM!
MOTHER!
MOTHER!
BAM!
MOTHER!
立入禁止
MOTHER!
SUZUSHIRO
BAM!
BAM!
BAM!

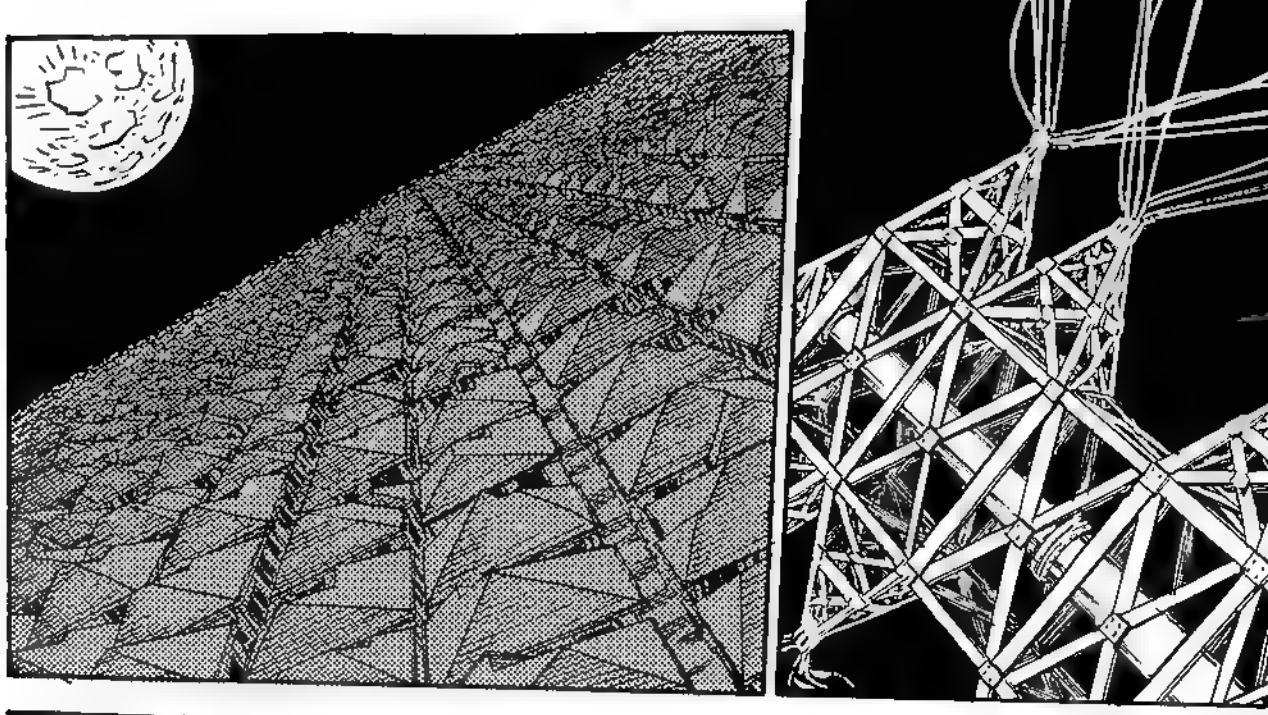
It's all just in my head.
Don't worry, mother.
STOP
-CHUK-

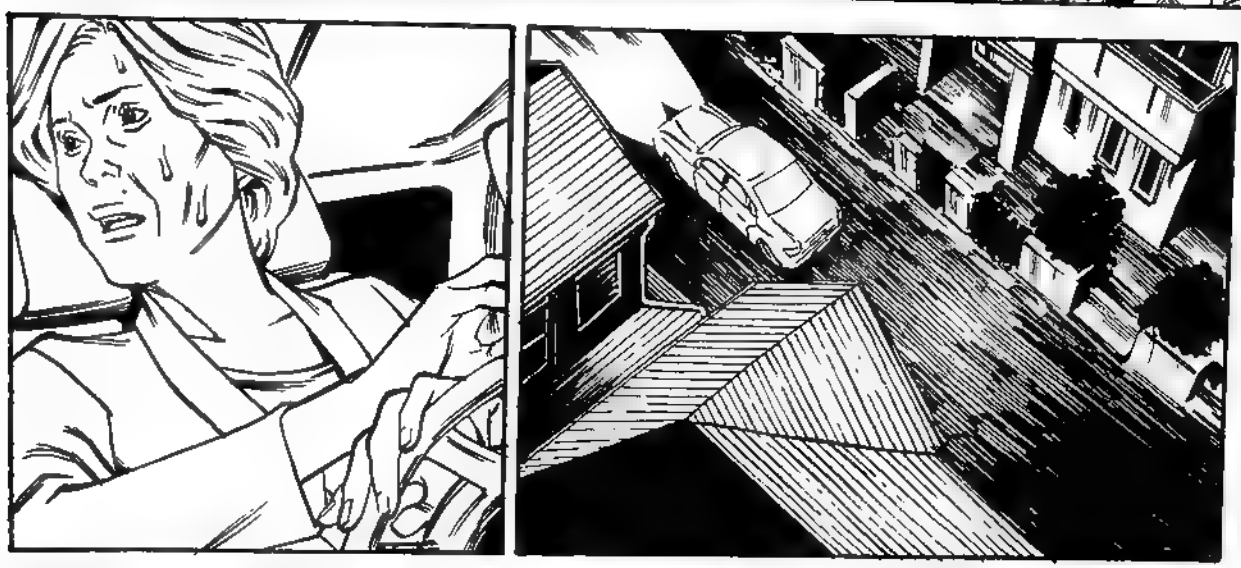
WHAM

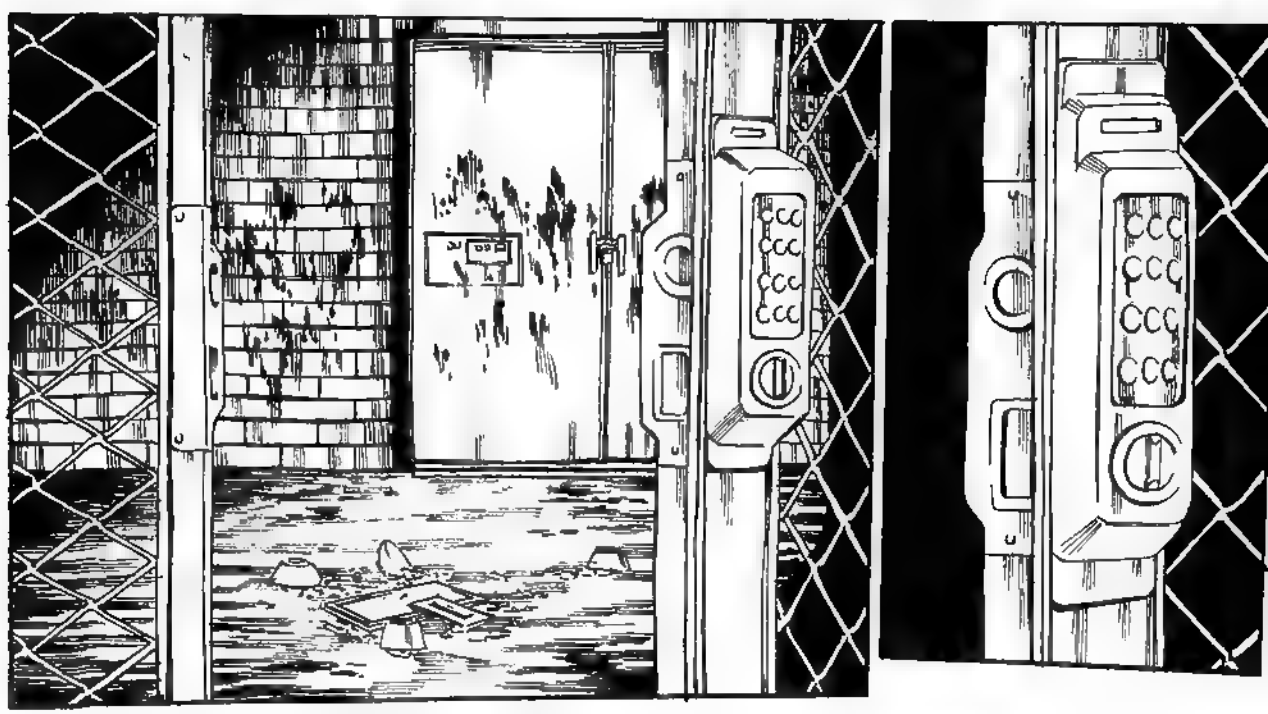

SPLASH

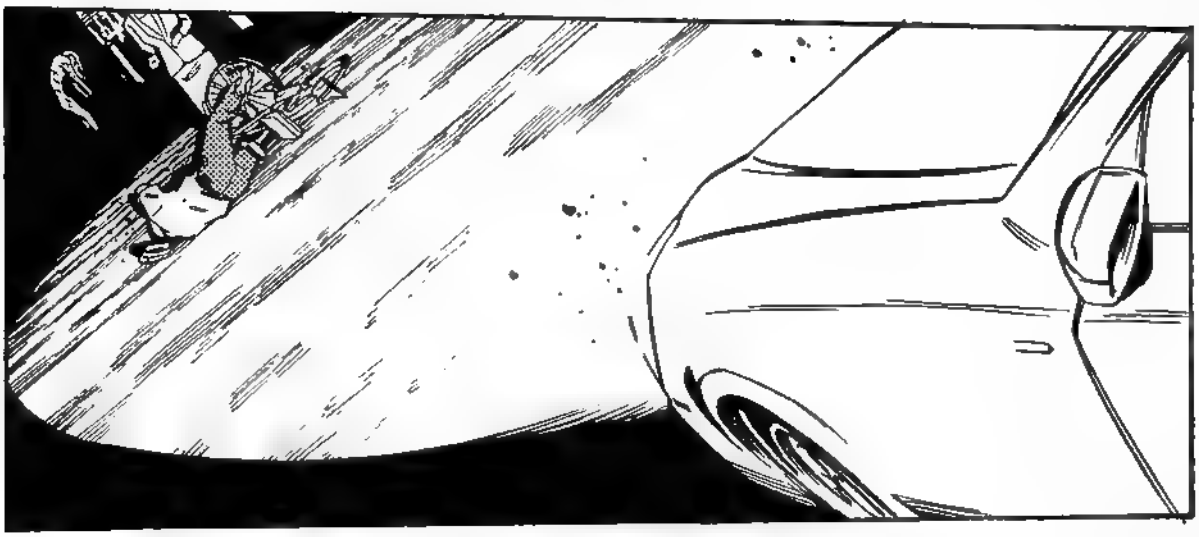

CLANG
SIZZLE!
AAAH HHHH!
AAAH HHHH!
NGAA AHHH!
AGH HHH!
GRAB
AAAAH HHHHH!

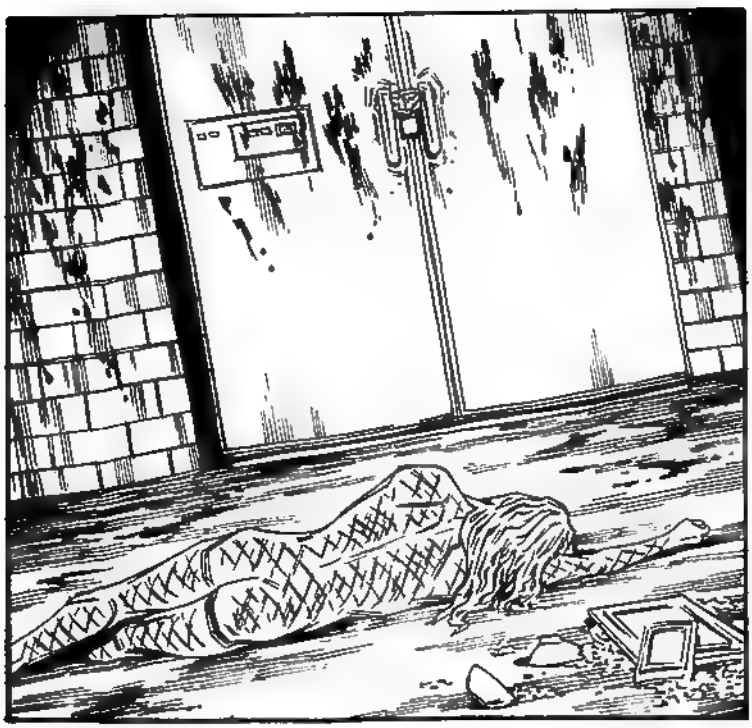

SIZZLE
Damage... to the brain .. from oxygen deficiency...
SIZZLE
Nnn aghh...
I'd never try to take your life again...
I swore...
Gaah hhh...
Aaag ghh...
Nnaa ahhh...
Aaah hhhh
SIZZLE
The one at fault for everything is...
The one at fault...
I'm sorry... Youhei...

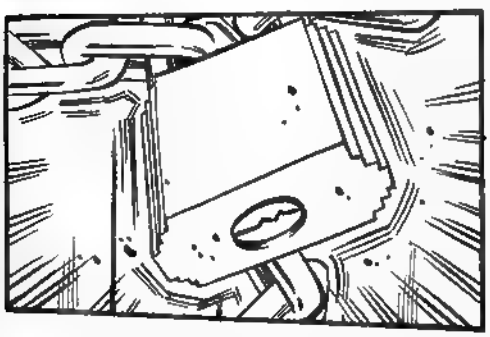


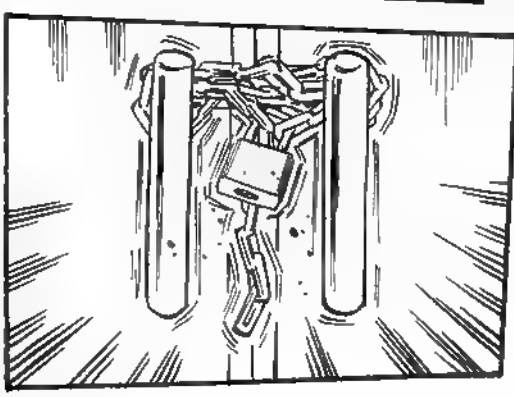


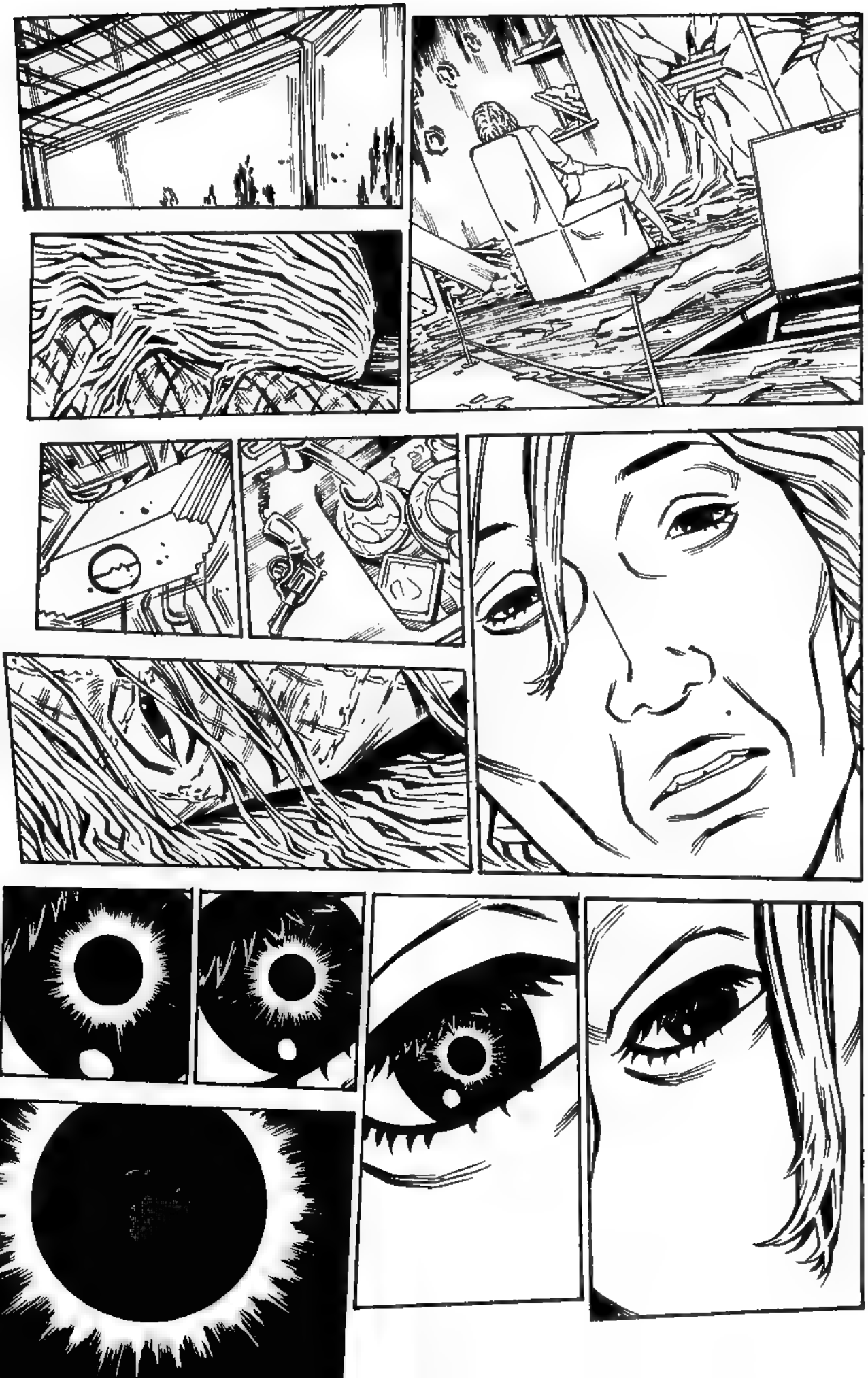


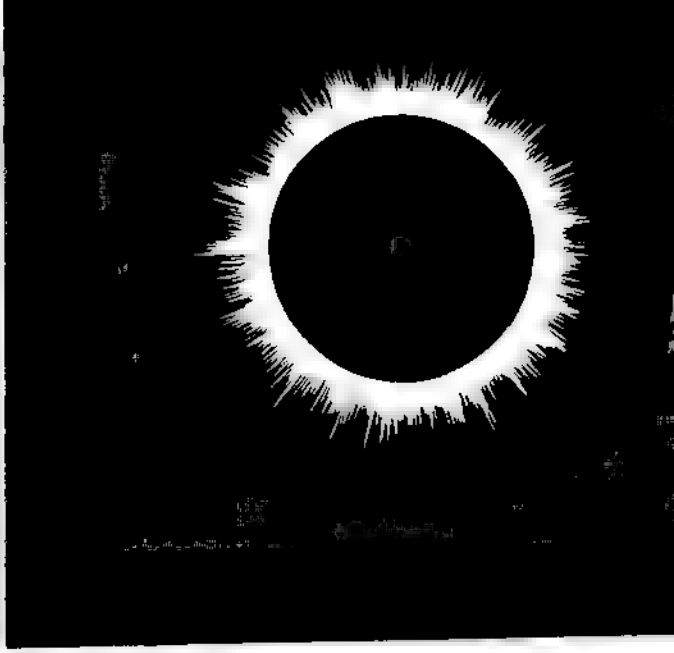


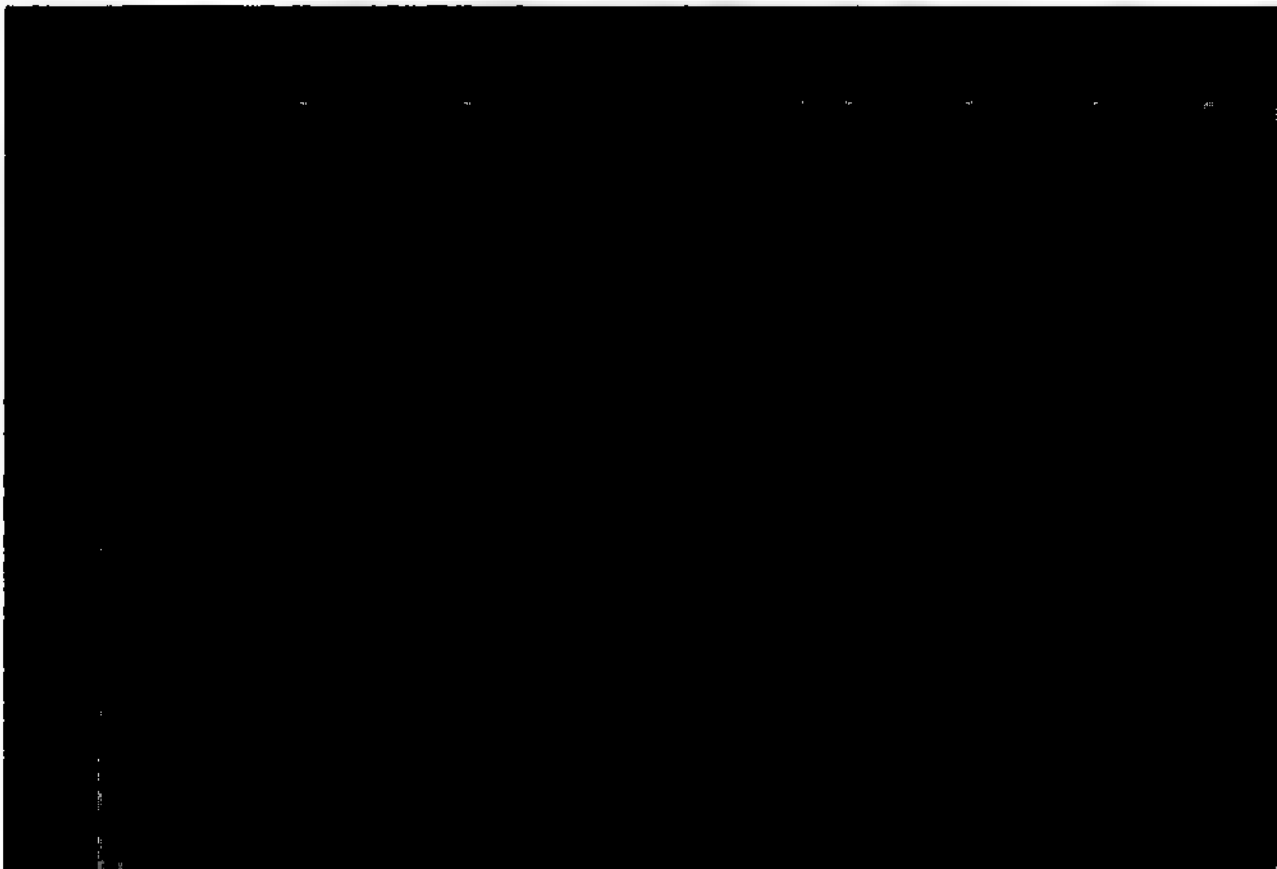




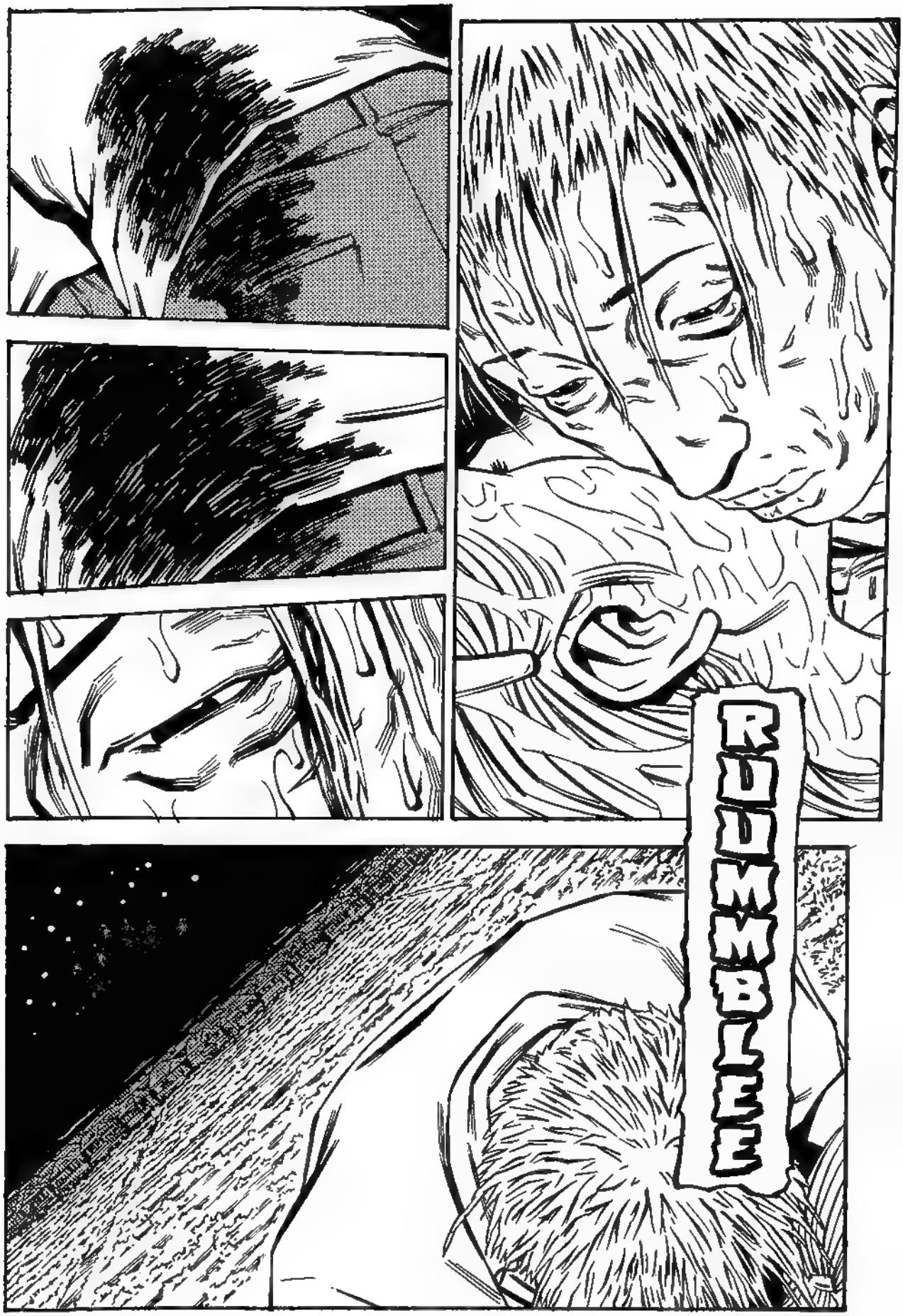


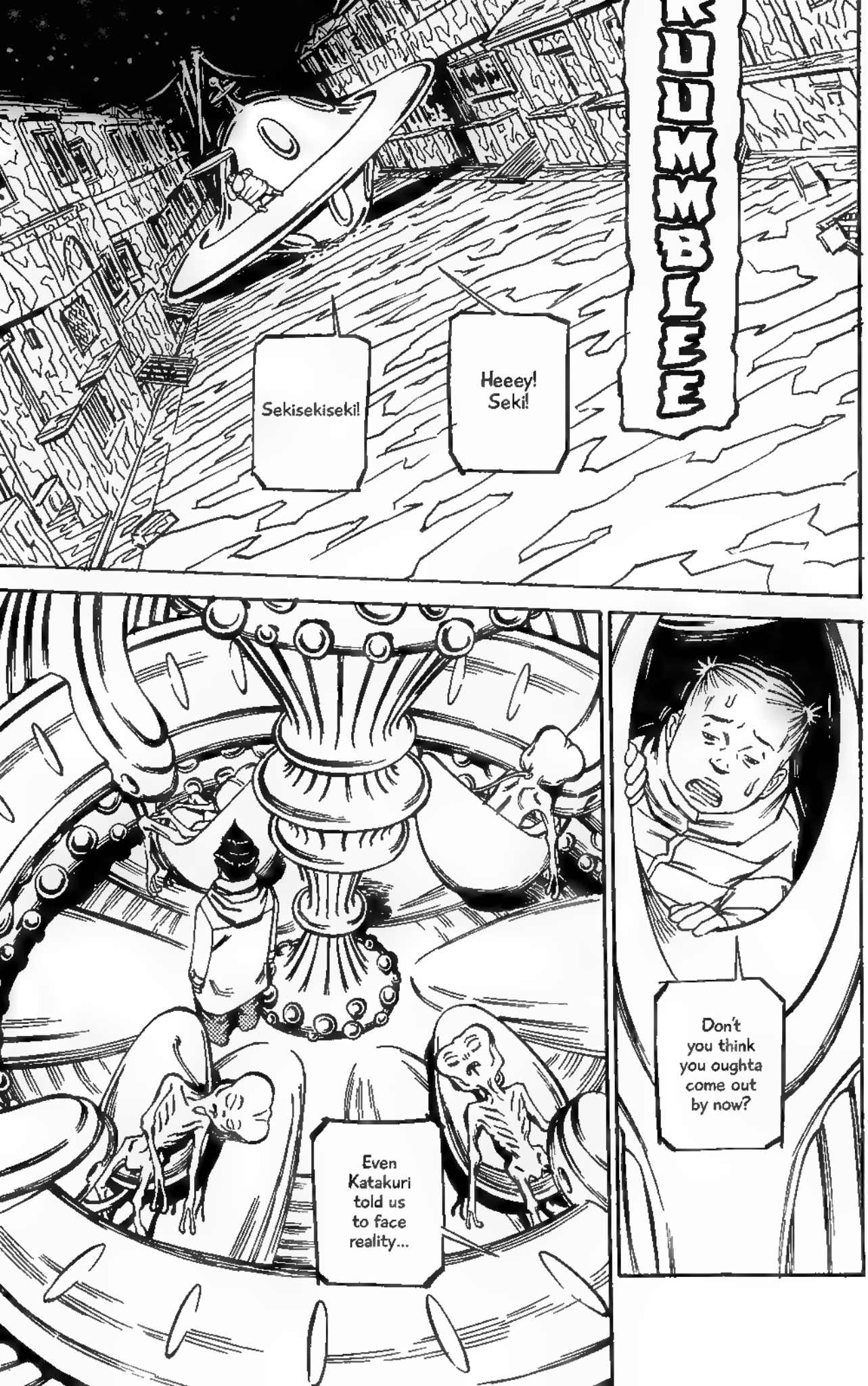






FWOOSH
FWOOSH

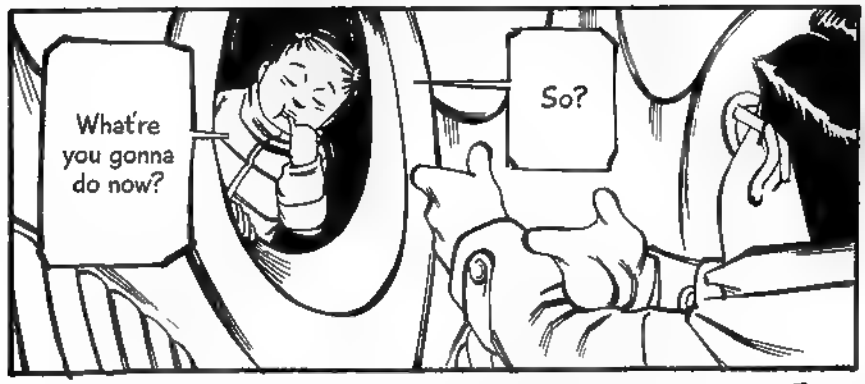

RUMBLE

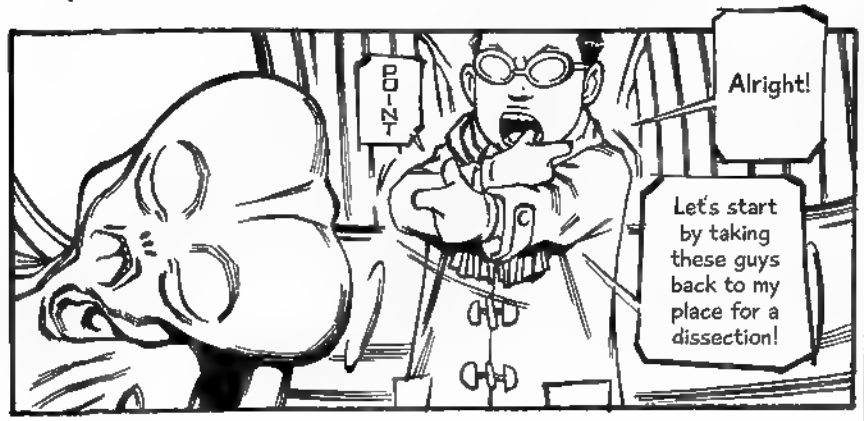

RUMBLE
Sekisekiseki!
Heeey! Seki!
Even Katakuri told us to face reality...
Don't you think you oughta come out by now?

Understand it all very clearly.
I...
Tomiyama,
I understand now.
The rules that people believe in and follow,
The history that have been passed on for generations,
They're nothing more than one way of looking at this world, chosen by just one person!
Those things don't represent the whole world!
Just what the hell is reality anyways!?
Huh?

EVEN THINGS LIKE ILLUSIONS OR HOAXES ARE ALSO PART OF THIS WORLD!
AND THESE WORLDS WILL CHANGE ACCORDING TO HOW EACH PERSON'S MIND CHANGES!
TO EACH HIS OWN WORLD!
BUT THE WORLD ISN'T JUST ONE THING!
LIFT
IT IS NOT THE WORLD THAT SHAPES OUR MINDS!
IT'S OUR MINDS THAT CREATE THIS WORLD!
THERE ARE MULTIPLE WORLDS EXISTING AT ANY GIVEN TIME, AND IT'S US WHO CHOOSE WHICH ONE TO SEE AND LIVE IN!
AND SO, MY VERY BELIEF CAN SHAPE THIS WORLD IN AN INSTANT!

DO-ZT
MY FREEDOM IS ABSO-LUTE!
ONE NEEDN'T BE TIED DOWN BY ANYTHING!
THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR!
THIS WORLD IS MINE ALONE!
MY MIND IS MINE AND MINE ALONE!


What're you gonna do now?
So?


DO-INT
Alright!
Let's start by taking these guys back to my place for a dissection!

...

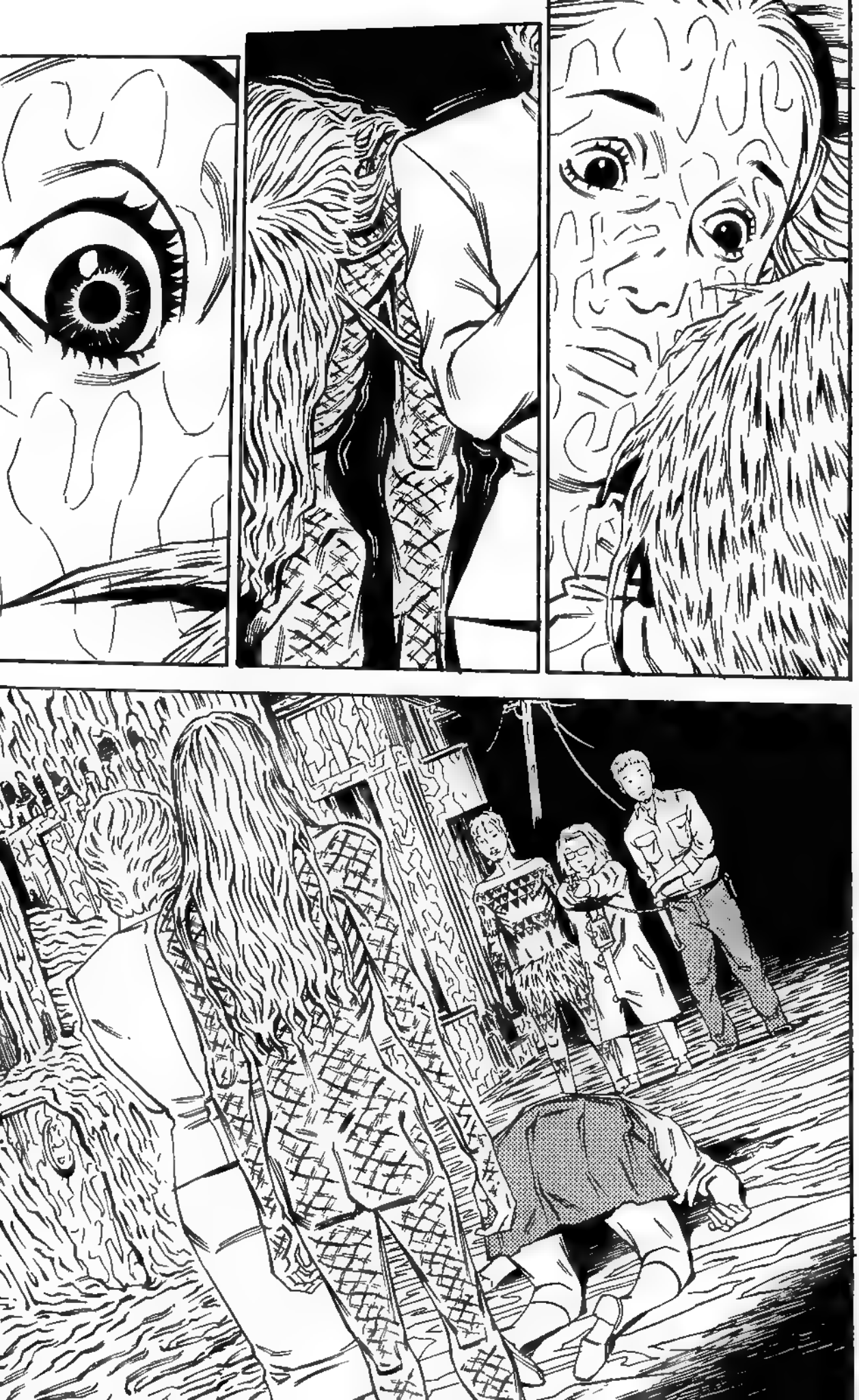
RUMBLE
RUMMBLE

RUMBLE
M...
M-m-ms...
K-k-k-kosaka...
RUMMBLEE

Why...?

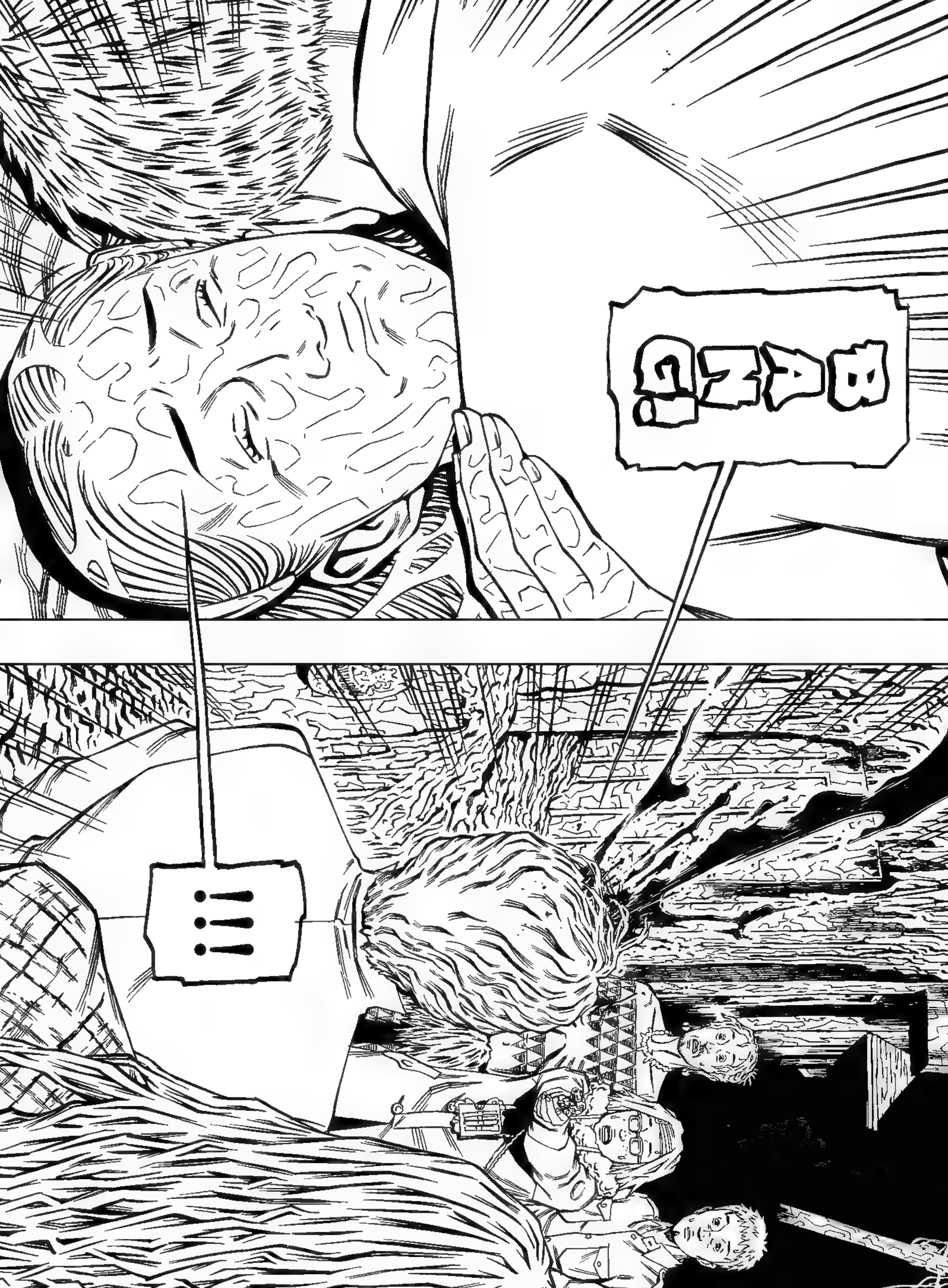
RUMBLE

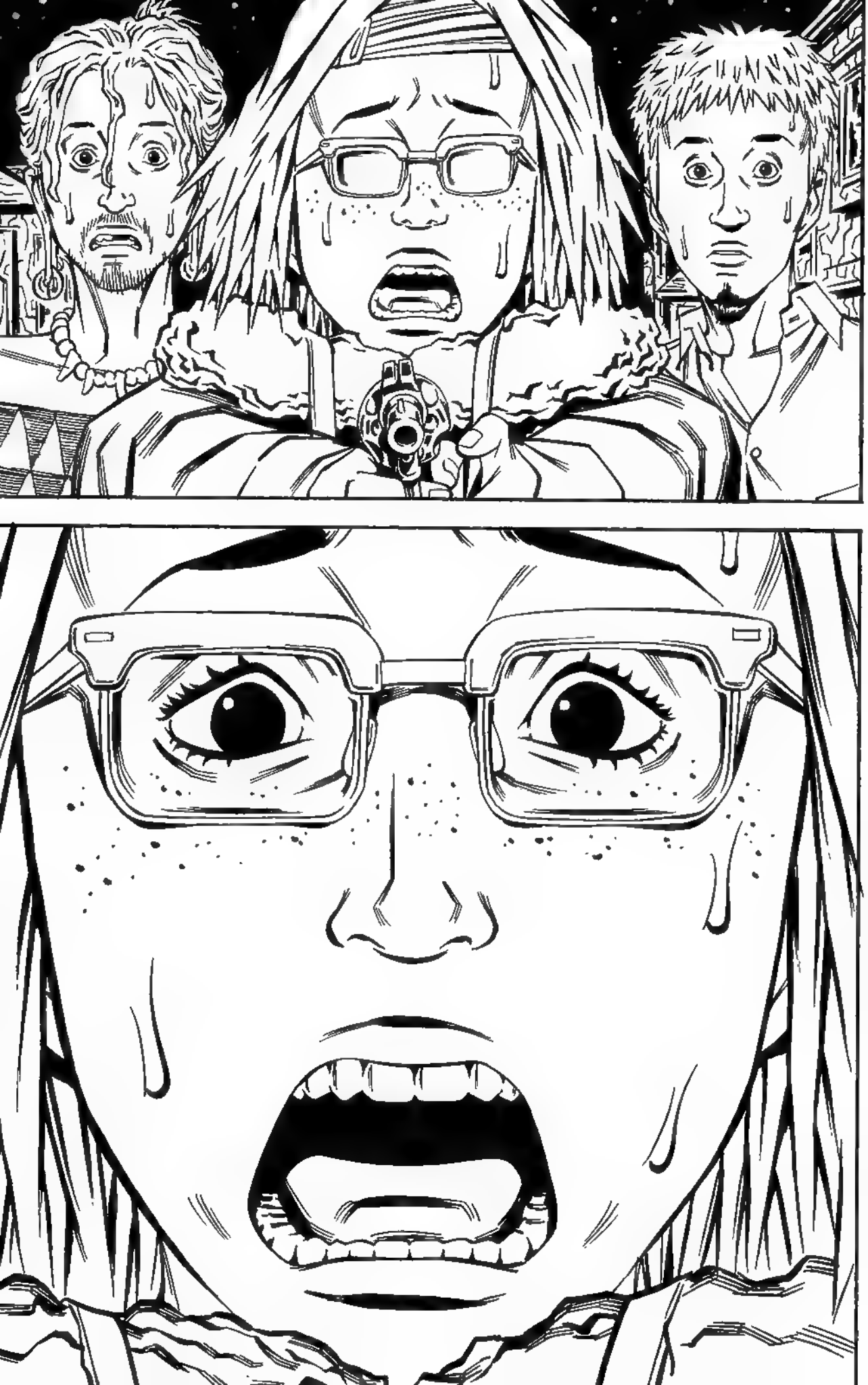
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

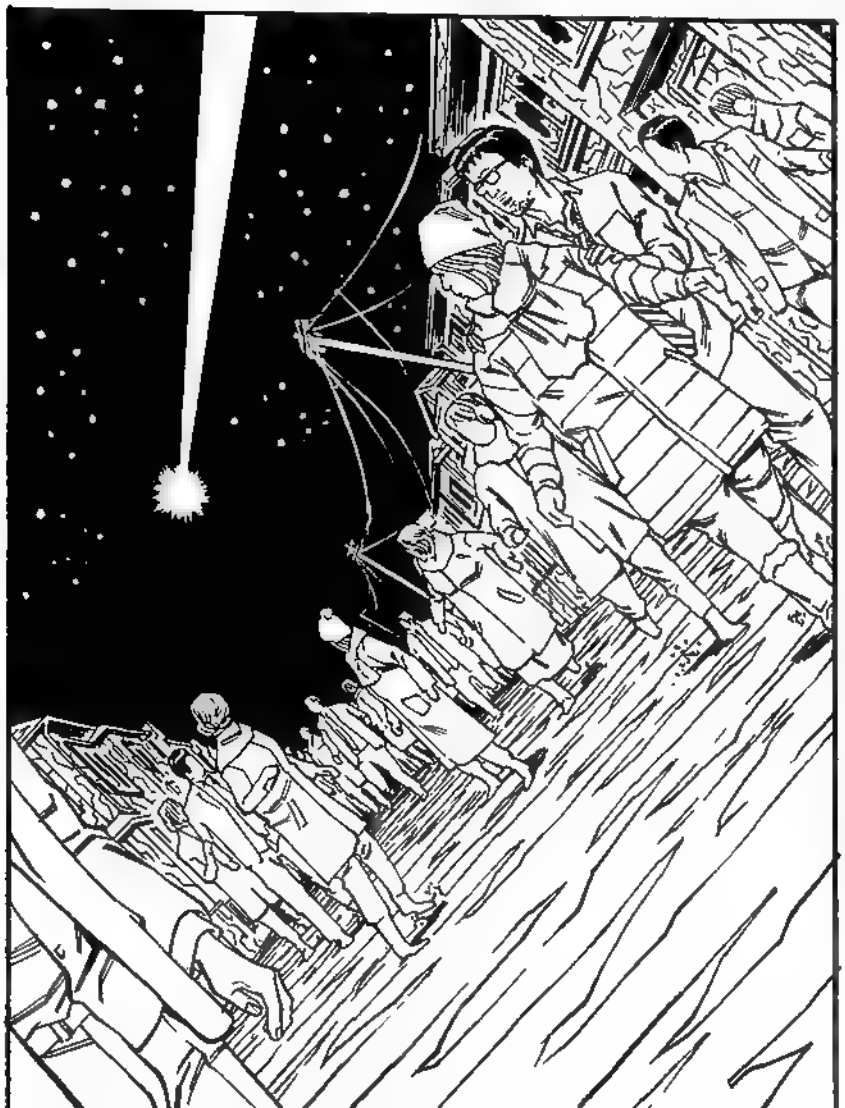


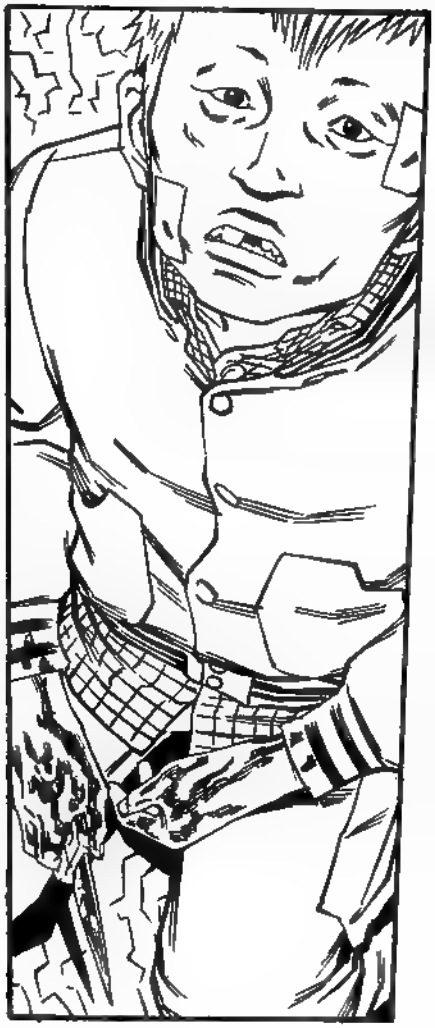
Loves me dearly.

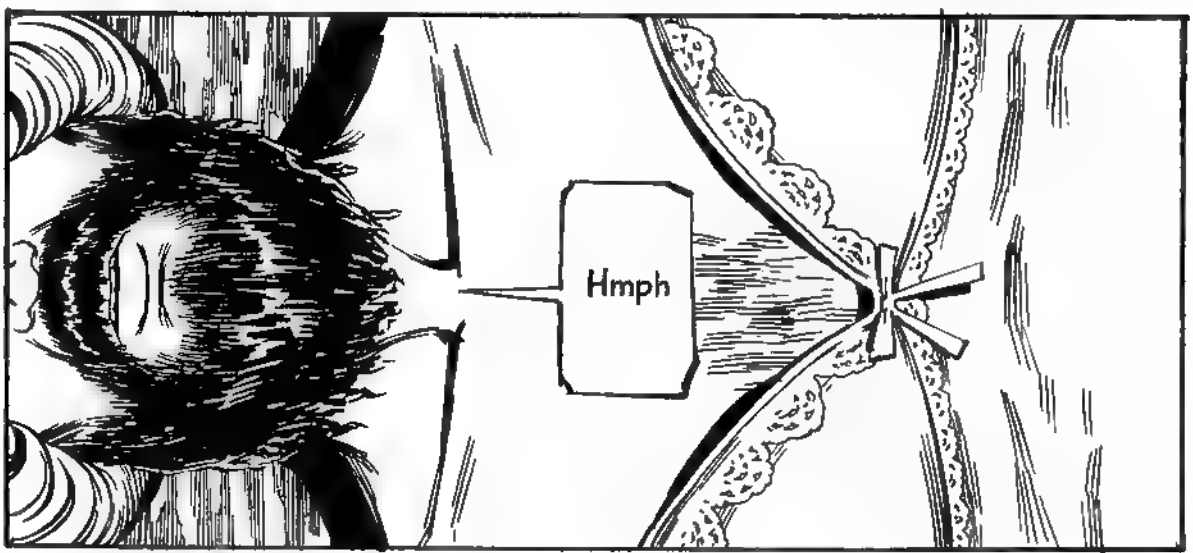
Because this person,

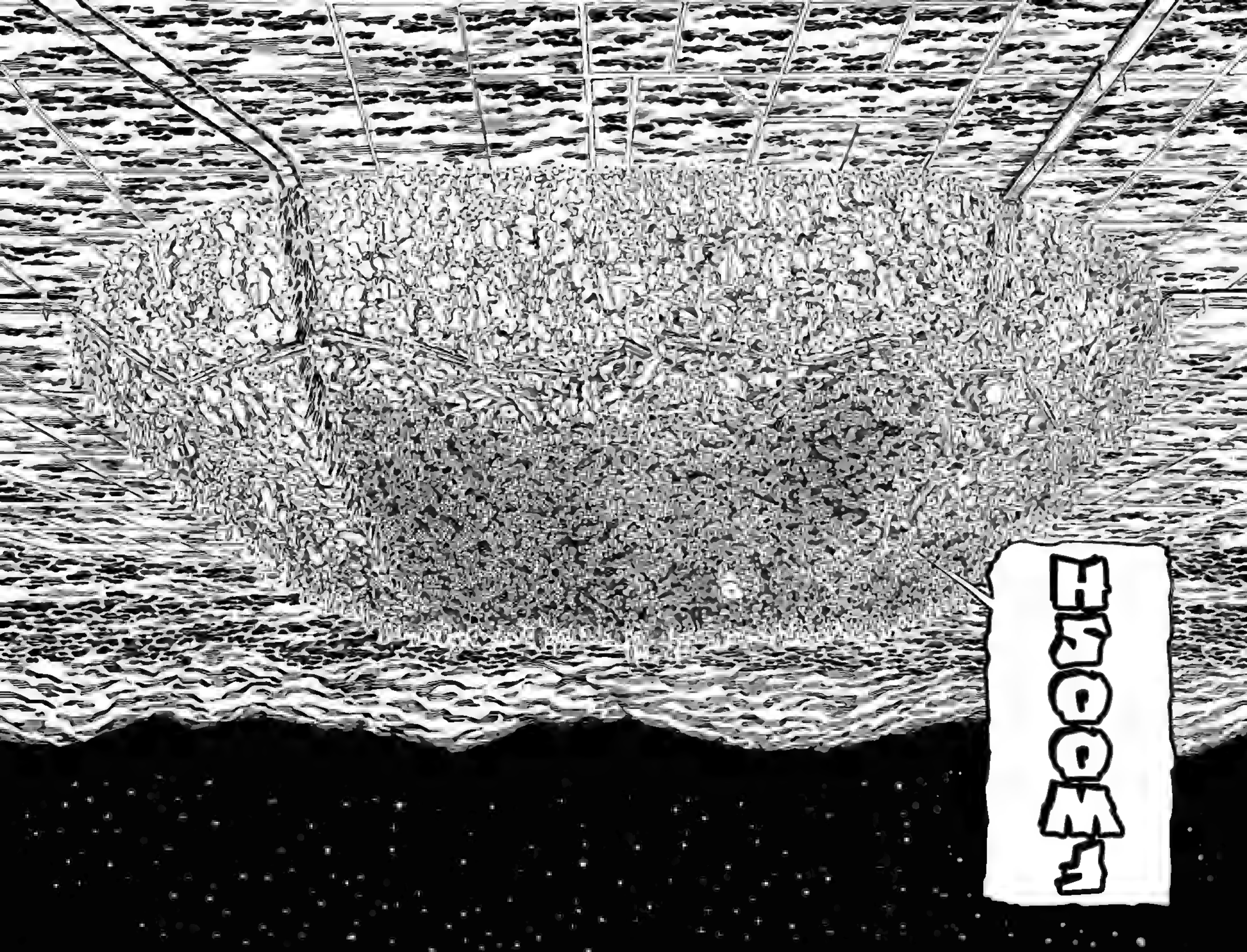

ちょっと
……








Hmph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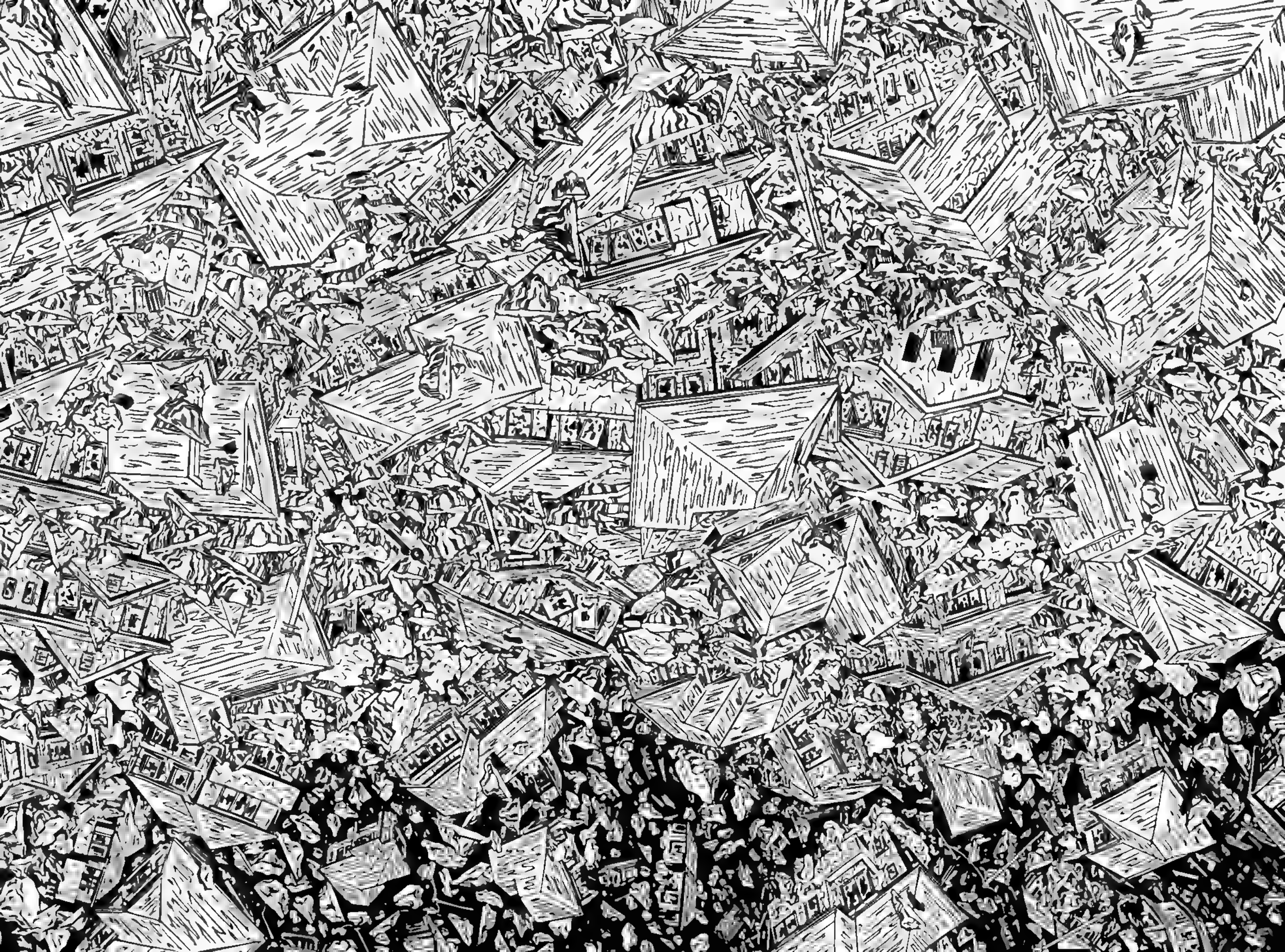
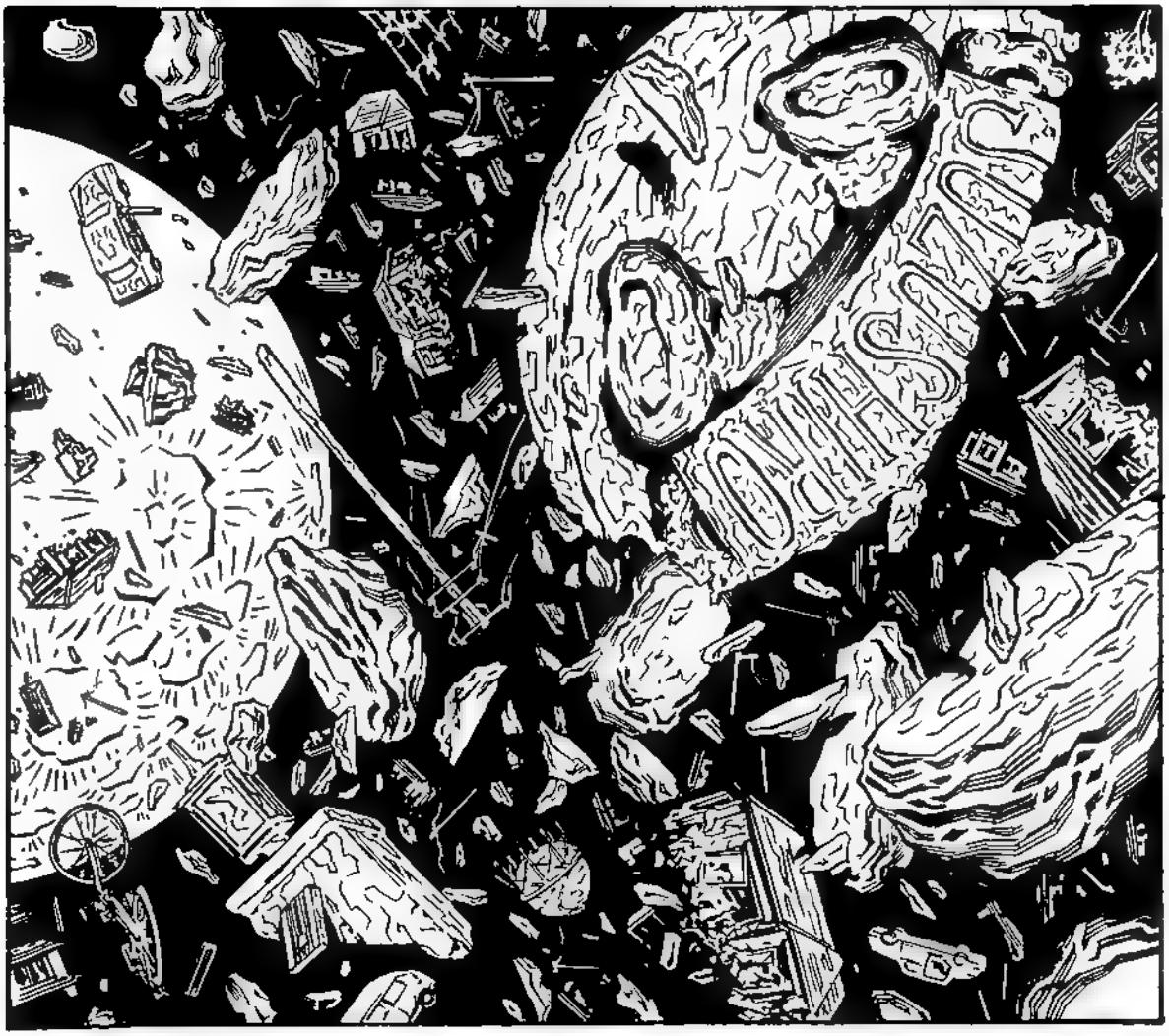
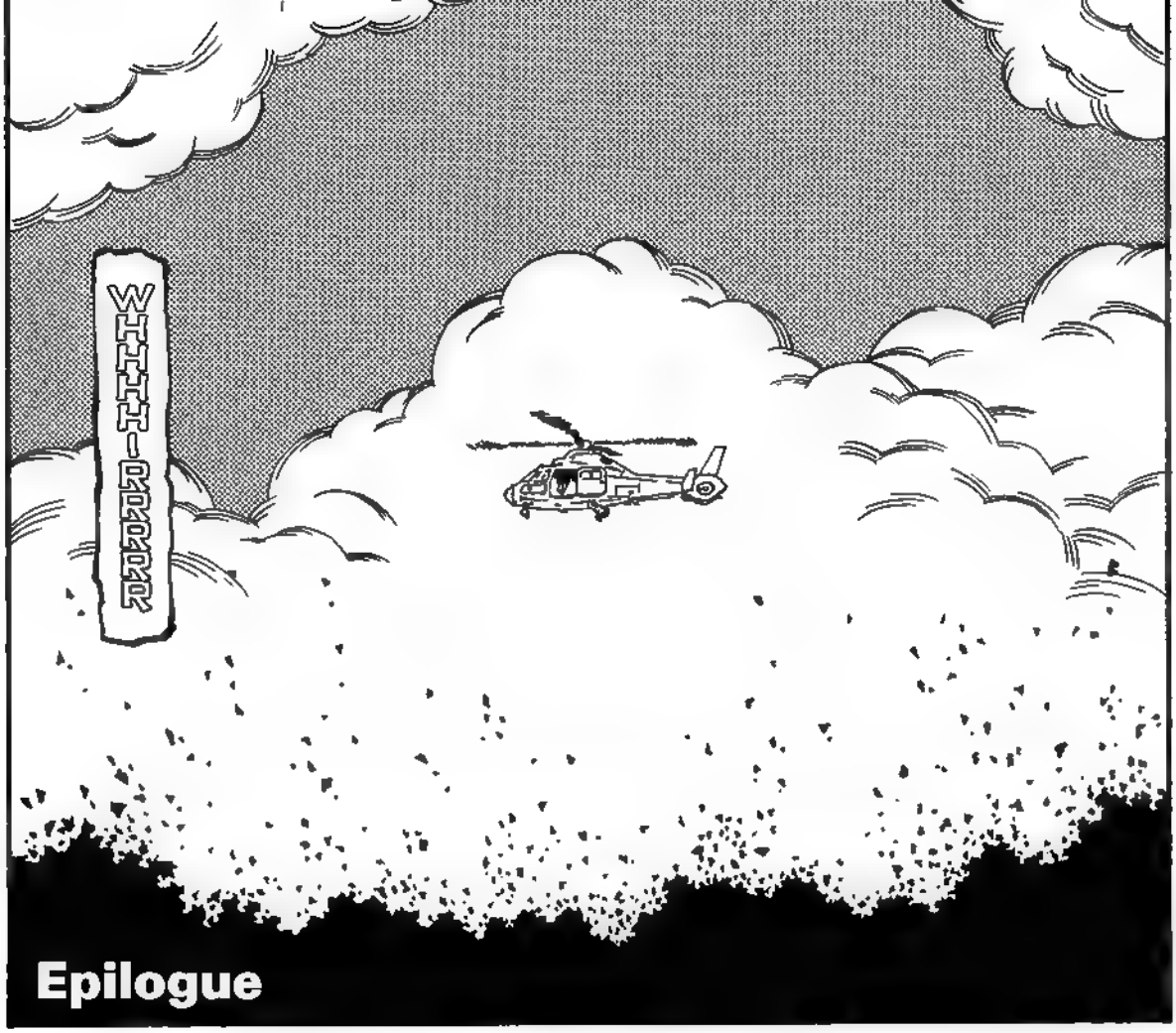


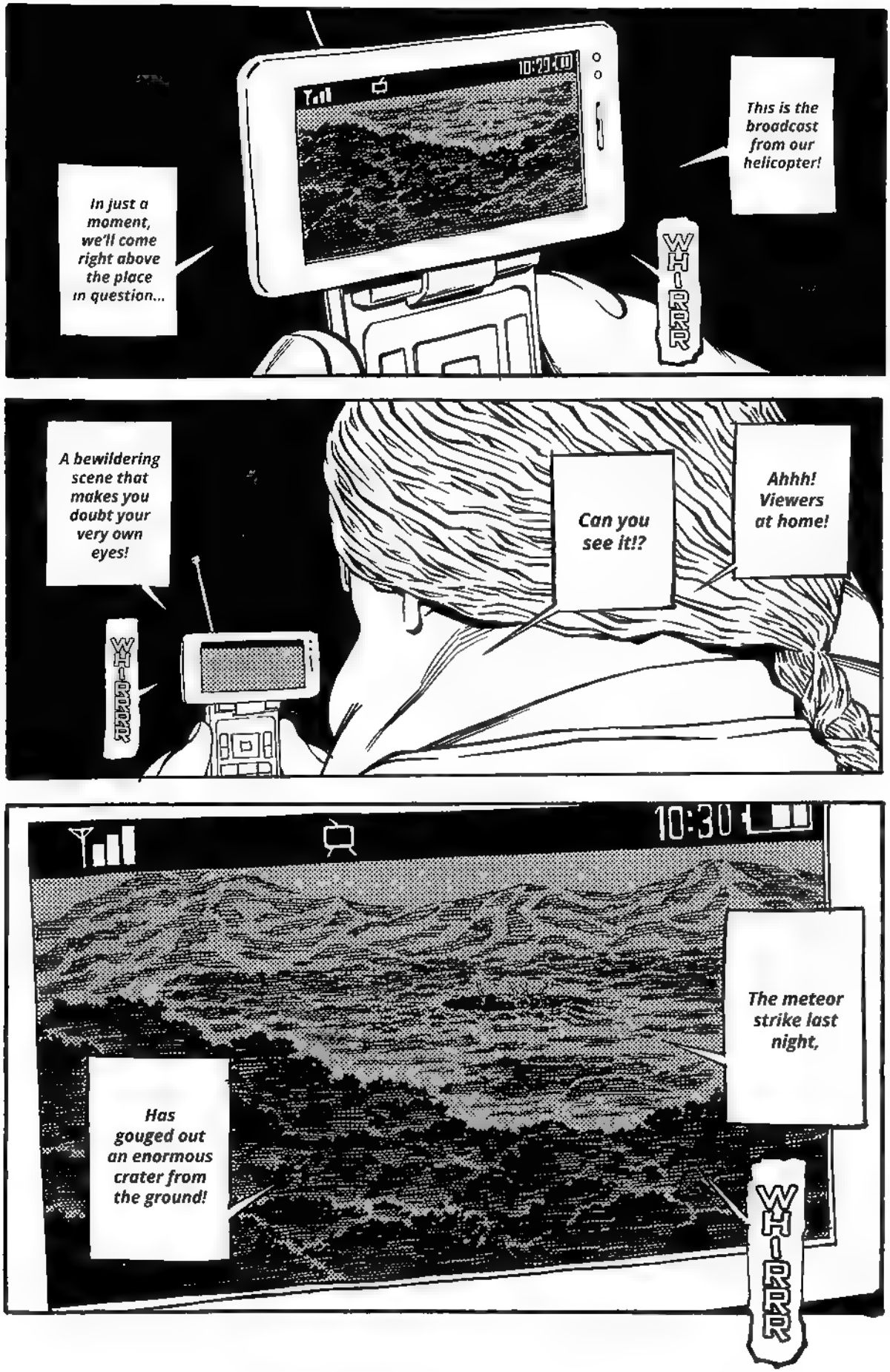
BLOCK 3-37

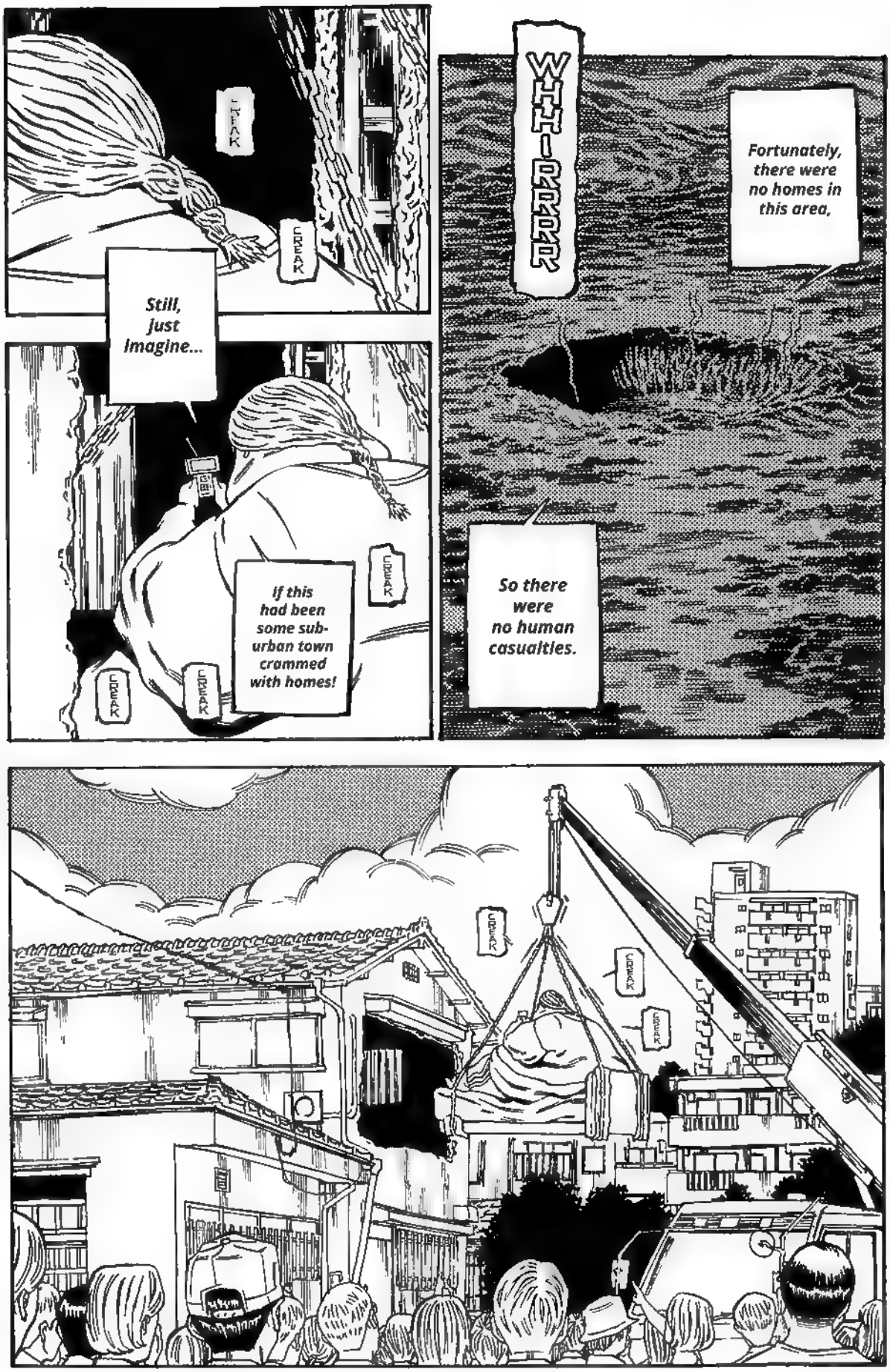


[Soil]

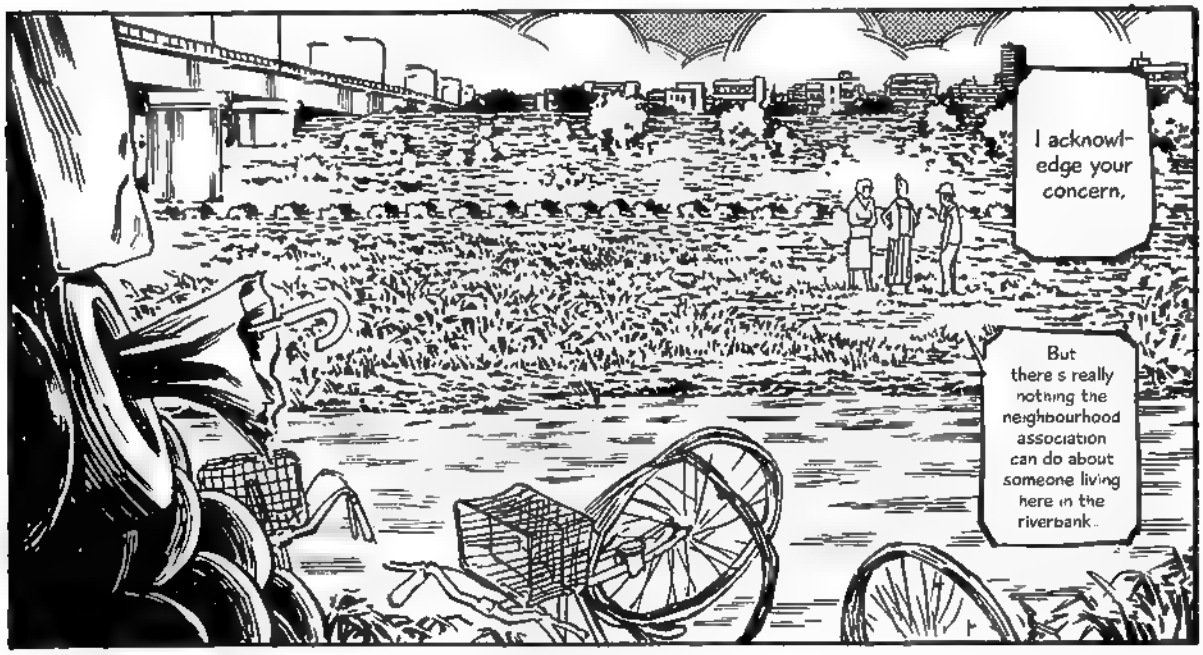

WHIRRR
Epilogue

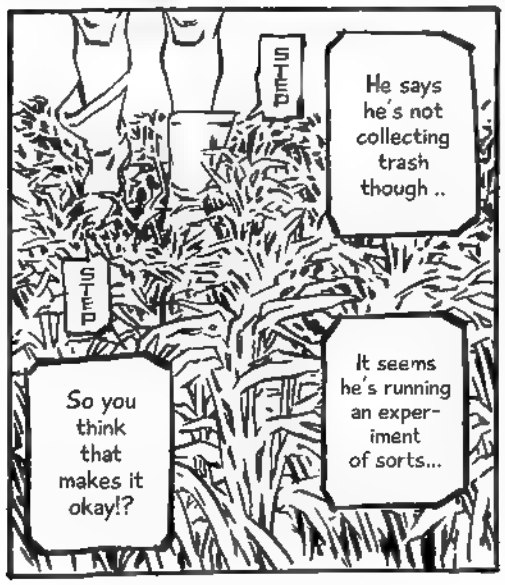
WHIRRR


In just a moment, we'll come right above the place in question...
This is the broadcast from our helicopter!
WHIRRR
A bewildering scene that makes you doubt your very own eyes!
WHIRRR
Can you see it!?
Ahhh! Viewers at home!
10:30
Has gouged out an enormous crater from the ground!
The meteor strike last night,
WHIRRR

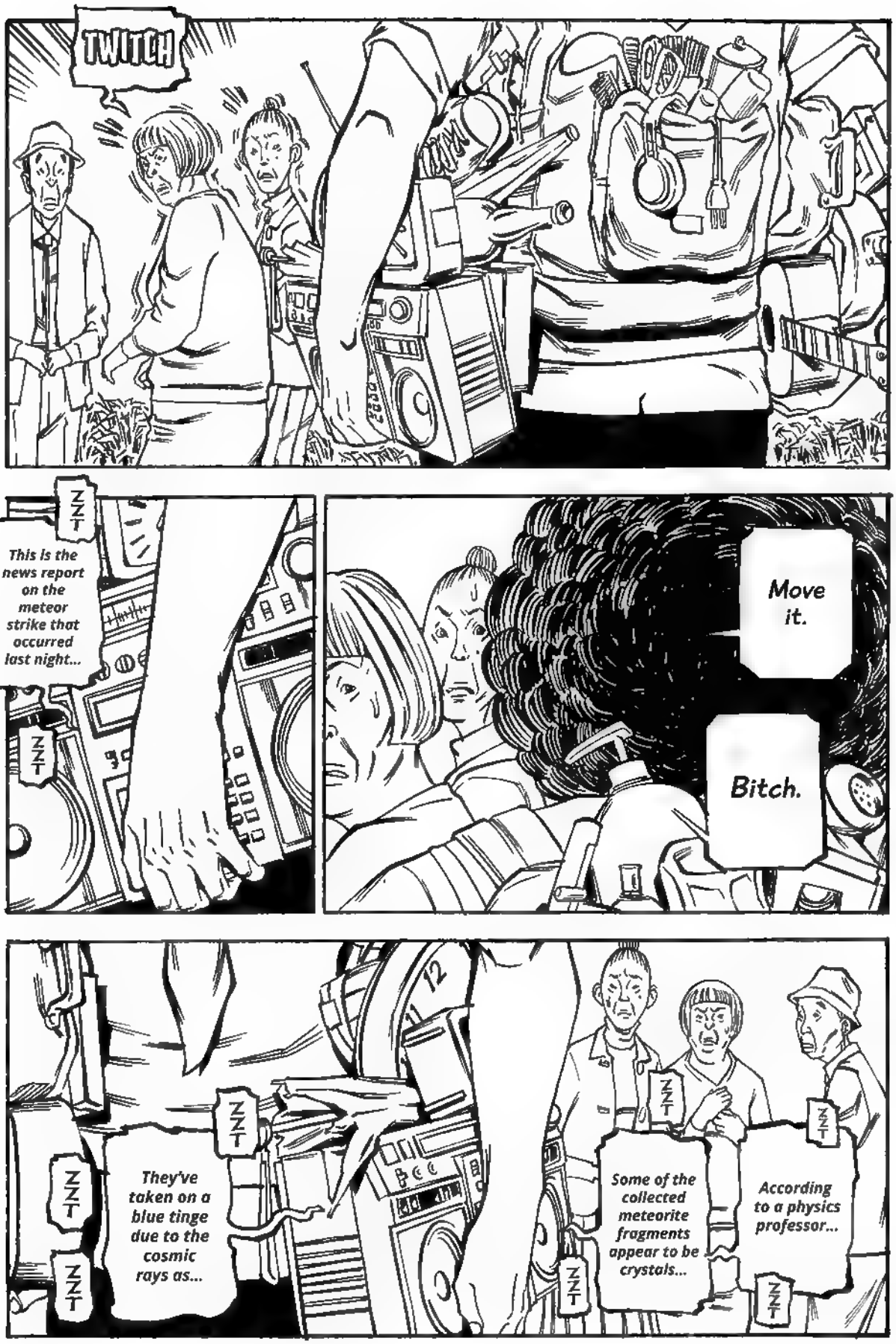

CREAK
CREAK
Still, just imagine...
If this had been some sub-urban town crammed with homes!
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
WHIR-RUMBLE
Fortunately, there were no homes in this area,
So there were no human casualties.
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK

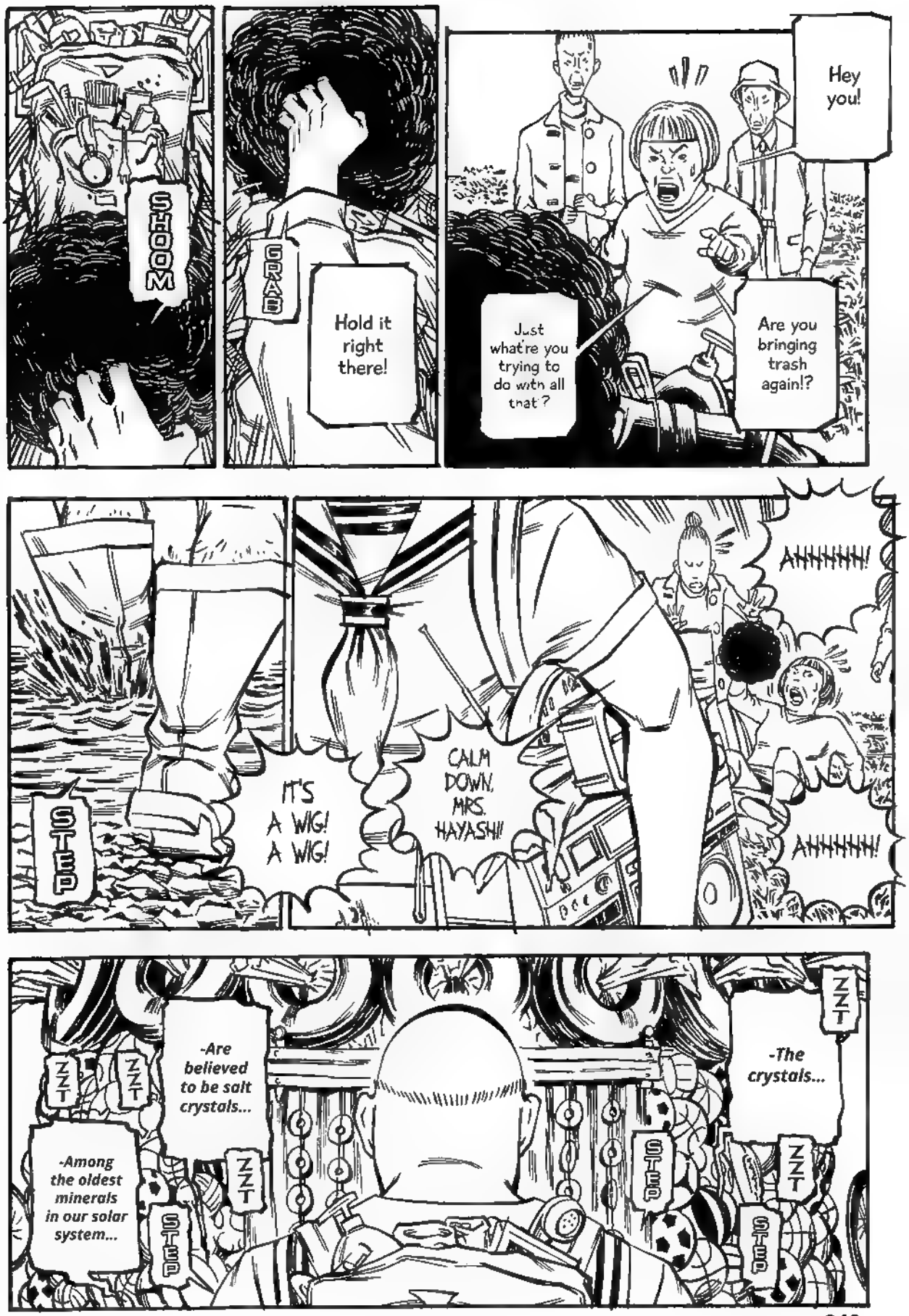
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE

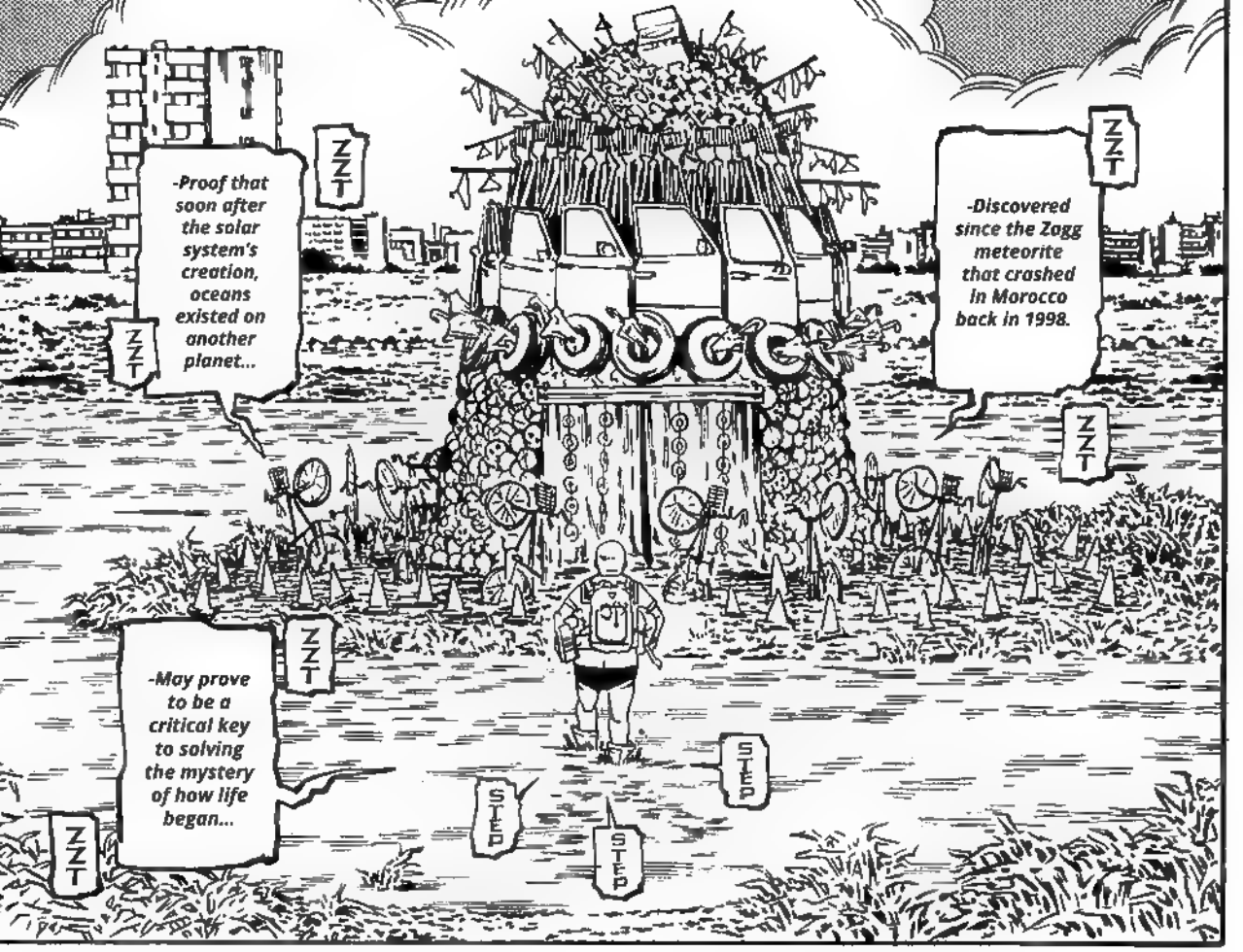

I acknowledge your concern,
But there's really nothing the neighbourhood association can do about someone living here in the riverbank.


STEP
STEP
He says he's not collecting trash though ..
It seems he's running an experiment of sorts...
So you think that makes it okay!?

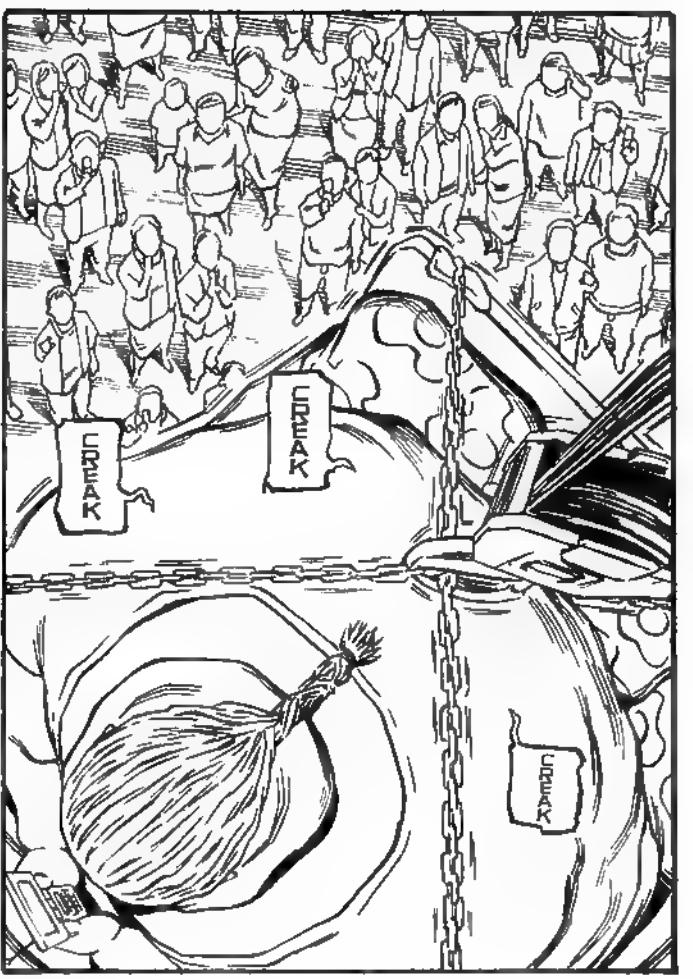
Since when has he been living here!?
You can't seriously think we should allow something like this, do you!?
Well, umm... He showed up here suddenly quite some time ago.


TWITCH
ZZT
This is the news report on the meteor strike that occurred last night...
ZZT
Move it.
Bitch.
ZZT
They've taken on a blue tinge due to the cosmic rays as...
ZZT
ZZT
ZZT
Some of the collected meteorite fragments appear to be crystals...
ZZT
According to a physics professor...
ZZT


SHOOM
GRAB
Hold it right there!
Hey you!
Just what're you trying to do with all that?
Are you bringing trash again!?
STEP
IT'S A WIG! A WIG!
CALM DOWN, MRS. HAYASHI!
AHHHHH!
AHHHHH!
ZZT
ZZT
-Are believed to be salt crystals...
-Among the oldest minerals in our solar system...
STEP
ZZT
-The crystals...
ZZT
STEP
STEP


-Proof that soon after the solar system's creation, oceans existed on another planet...
ZZT
ZZT
-Discovered since the Zagg meteorite that crashed in Morocco back in 1998.
ZZT
ZZT
-May prove to be a critical key to solving the mystery of how life began...
ZZT
ZZT
STEP
STEP
STEP

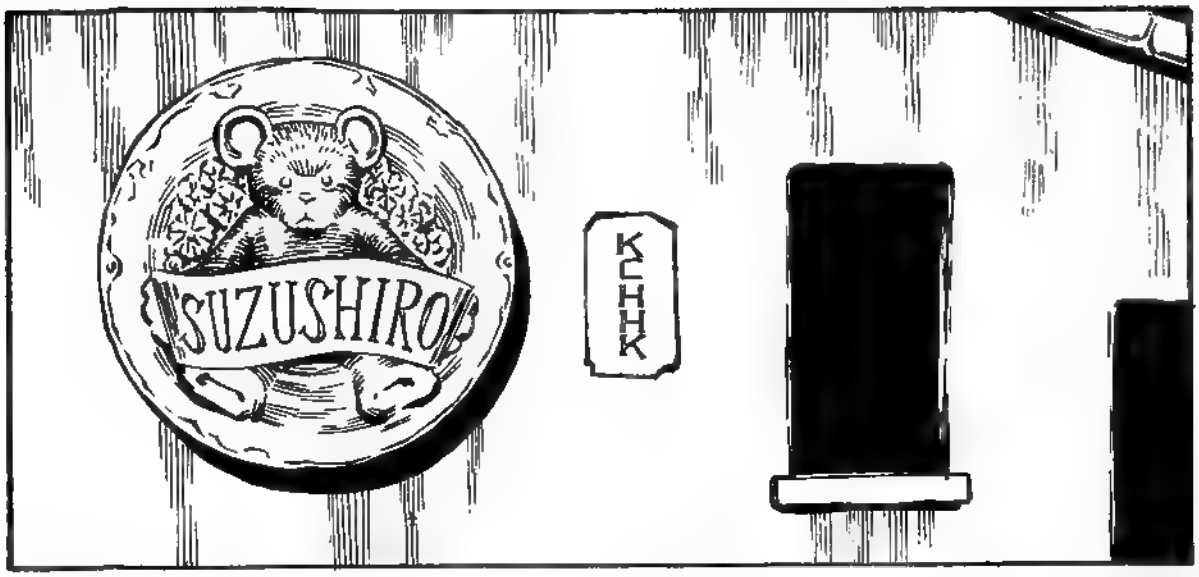
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK

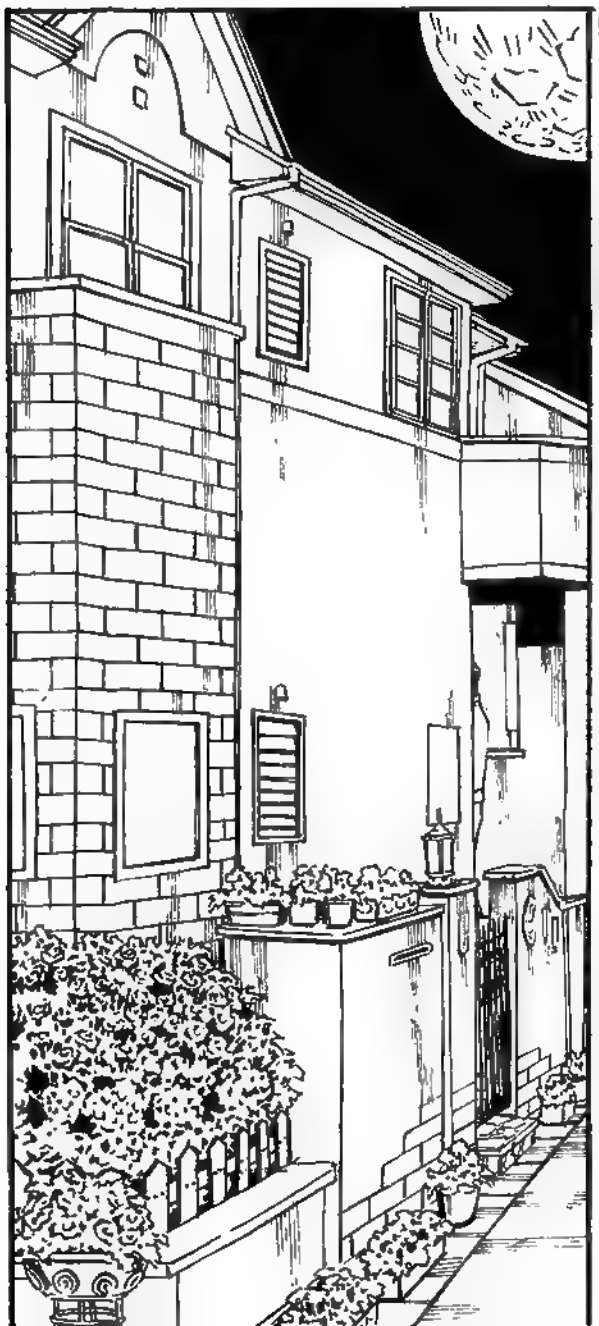

CREAK
CREAK
CREAK

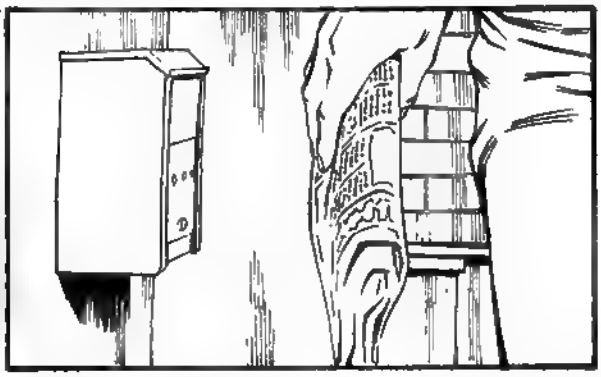
They couldn't get her out through the door or the windows,
So they had to break down the walls and carry her out. .
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
She's been holed up in her room since her teens. .?
That's right, and she s gotten so fat that her heart is now at its limit...
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
They said it's the first time in 12 years she's been outside...
CREAK
CREAK
AGHHHHH!
KYAAAAA!
SNAP!
AHHHH!

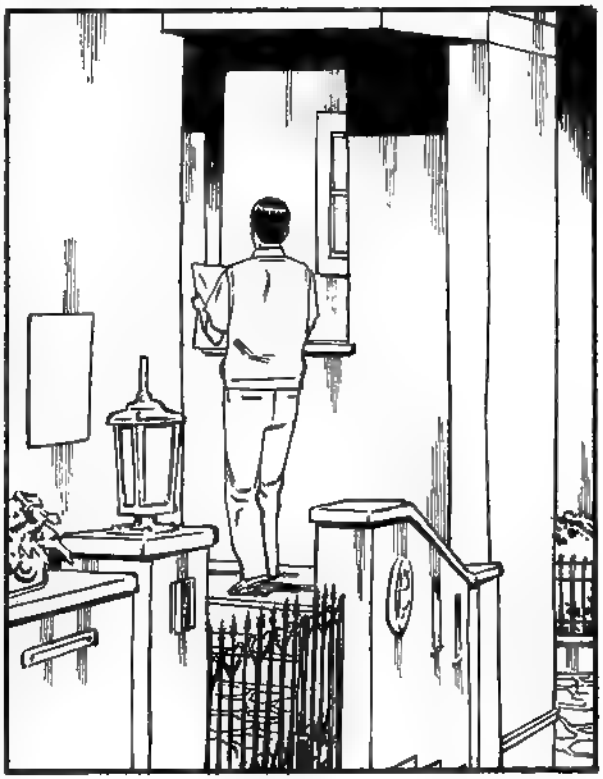
SMASH!
CRACK!
WH-WHAT...

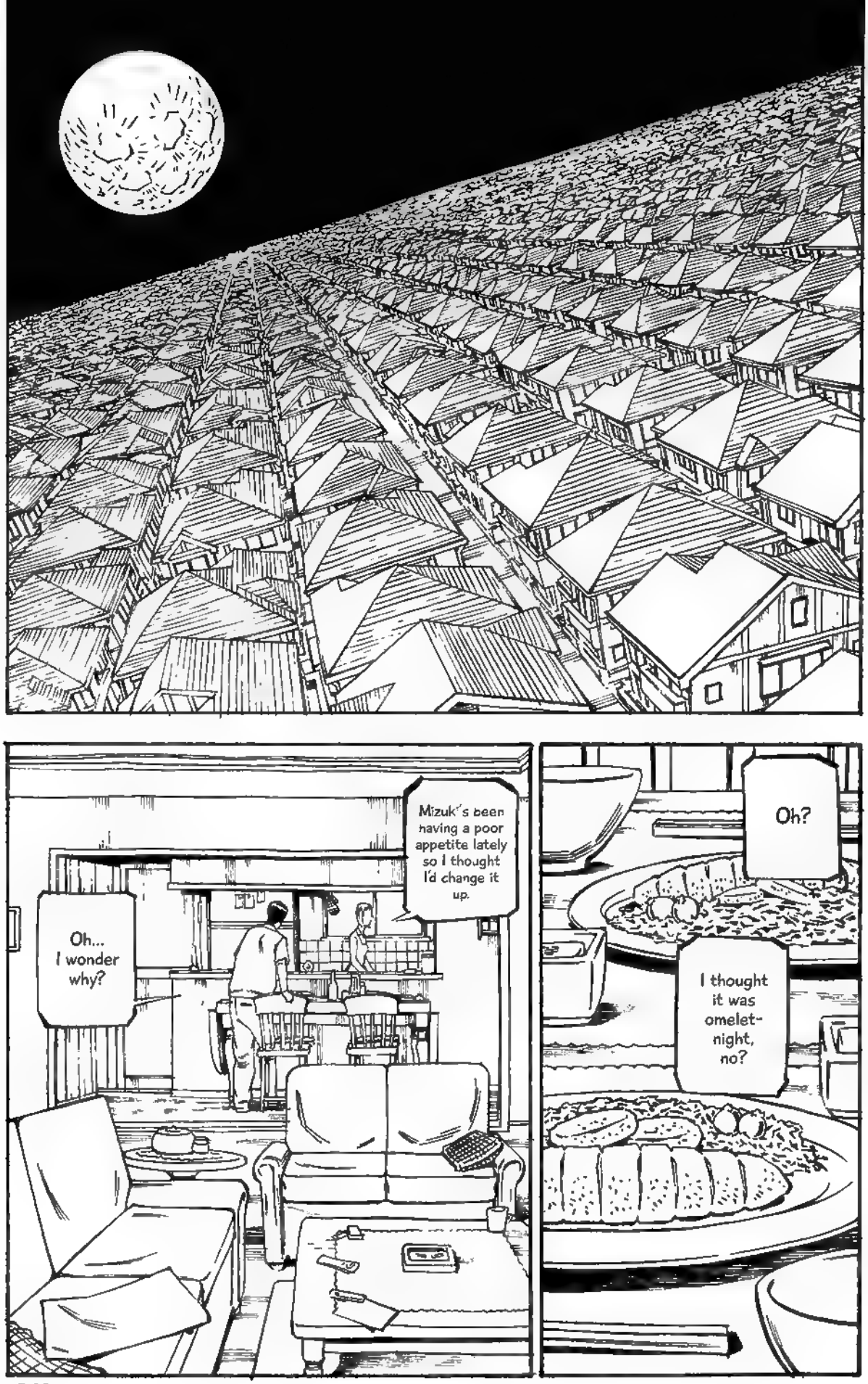
WHITE-ROBOT

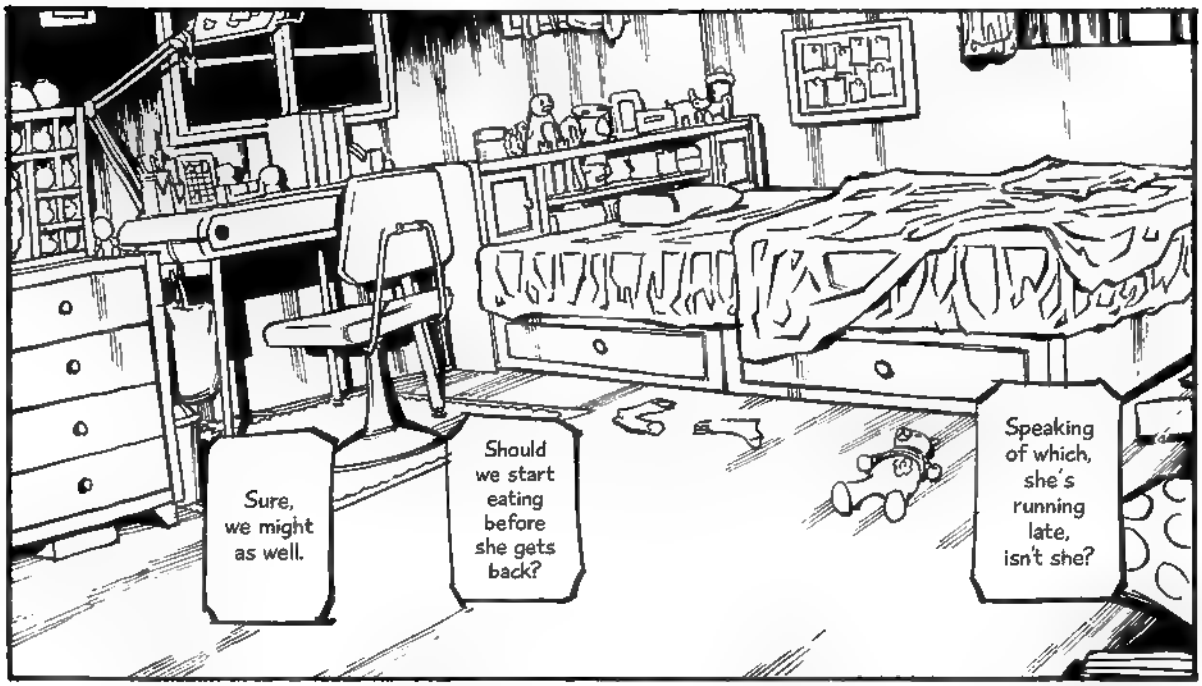

SUZUSHIRO
KCHHK

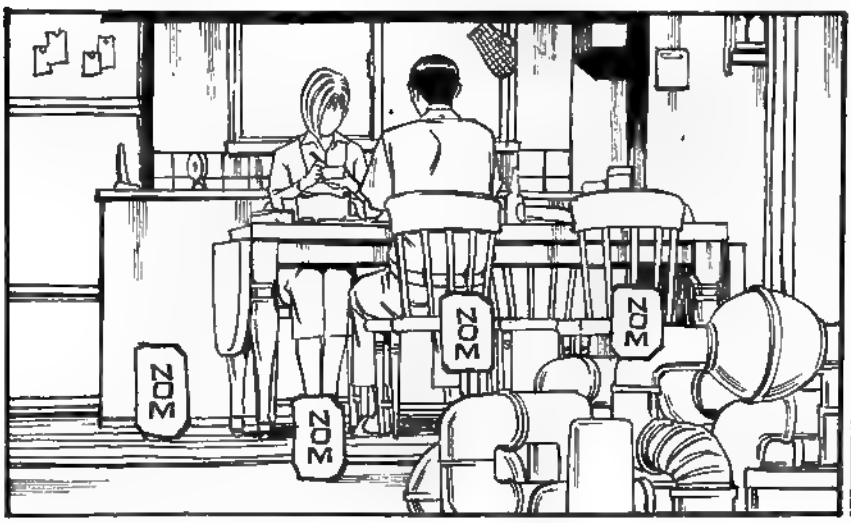




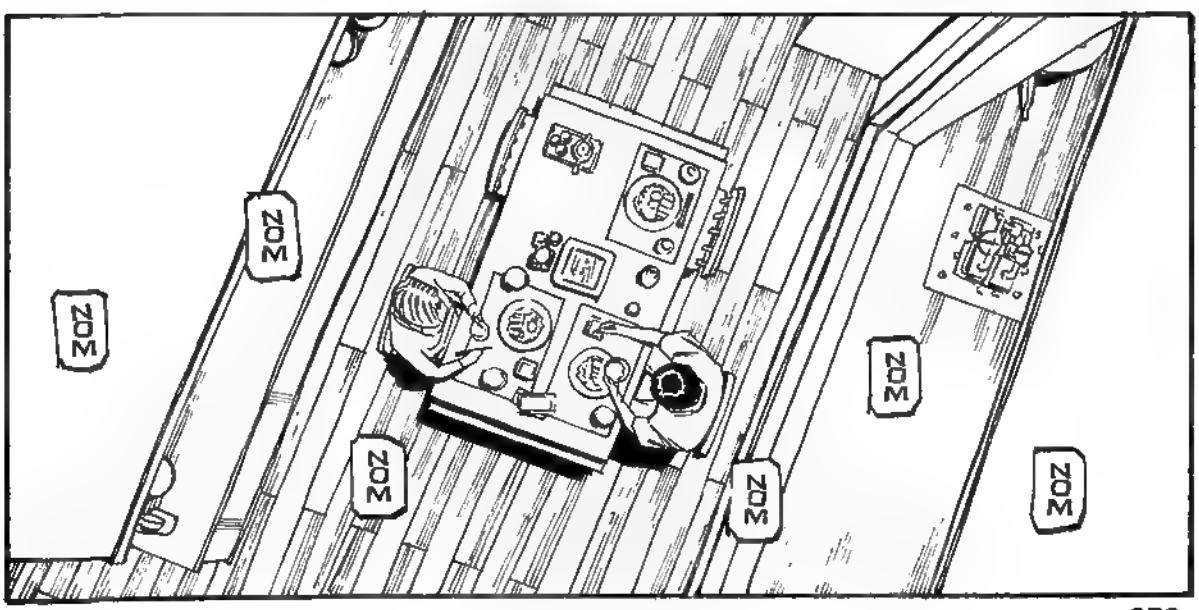


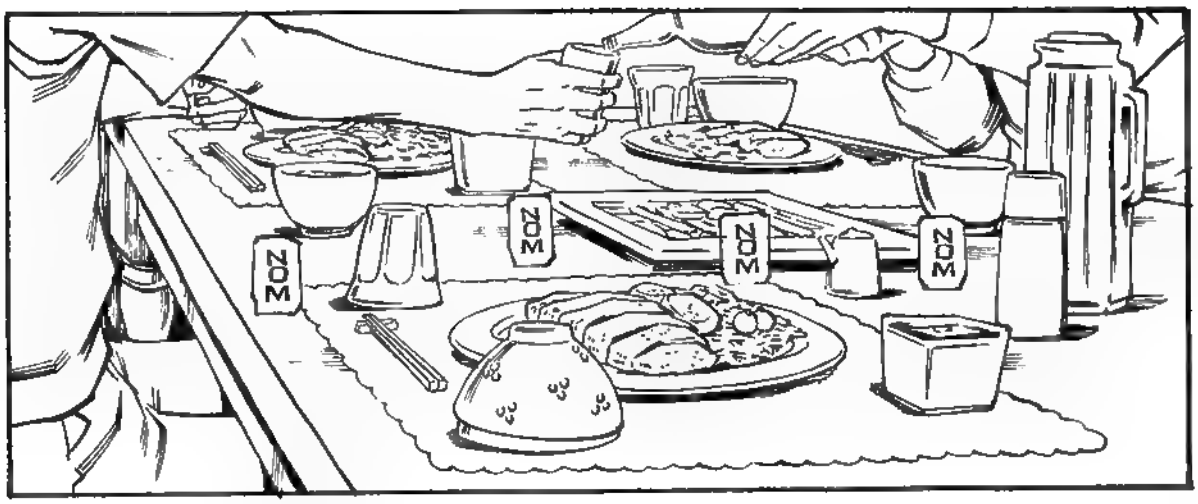

Mizuk's been having a poor appetite lately so I thought I'd change it up.
Oh... I wonder why?
Oh?
I thought it was omelet-night, no?


Speaking of which, she's running late, isn't she?
Should we start eating before she gets back?
Sure, we might as well.


ZOM
ZOM
ZOM
ZOM

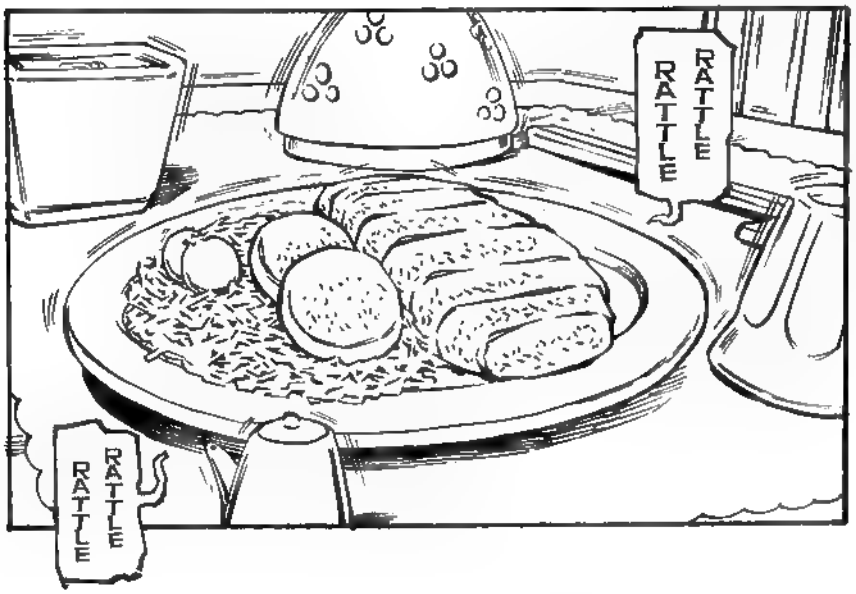
ZOM
ZOM
ZOM


ZOM
ZOM
ZOM
ZOM
ZOM
ZOM

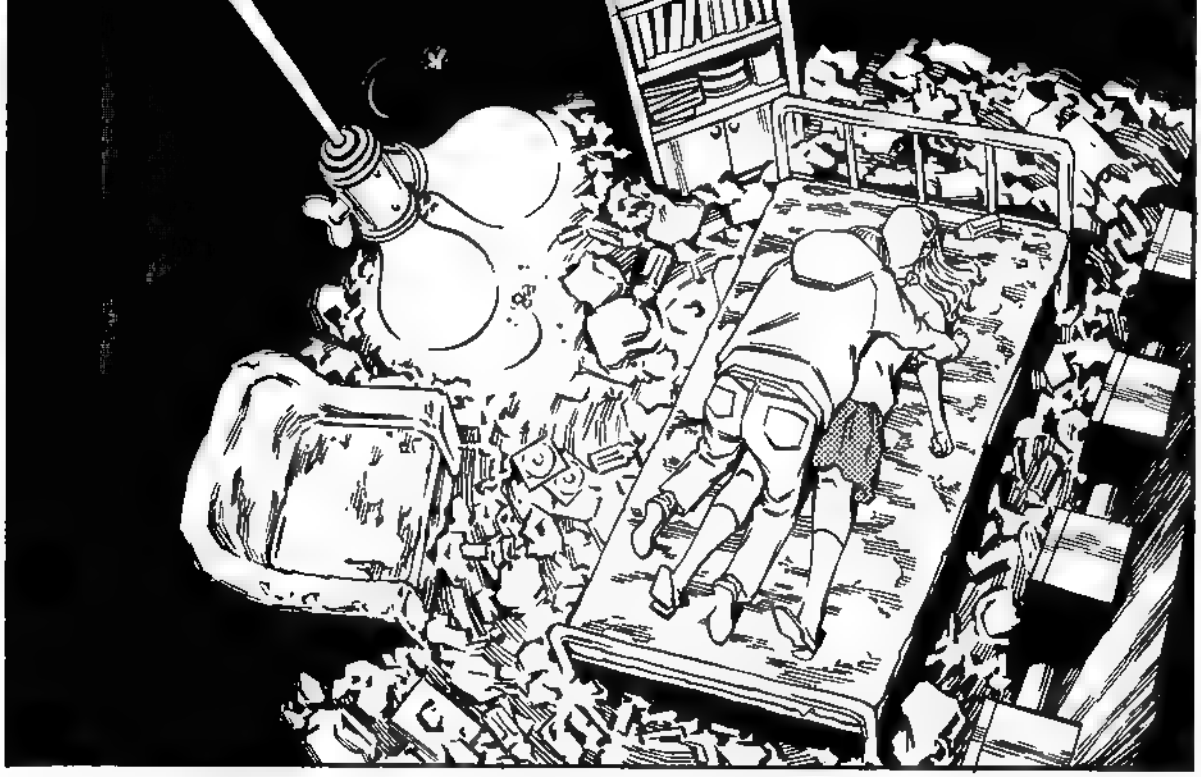

NOM
NOM
NOM
NOM

Yes,
Most definitely.

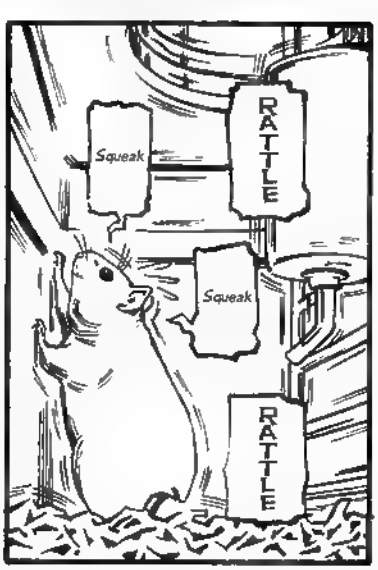
So this is how it ends.

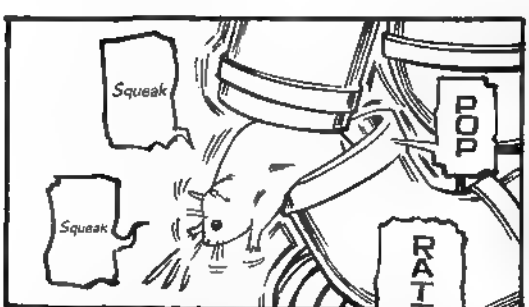

RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

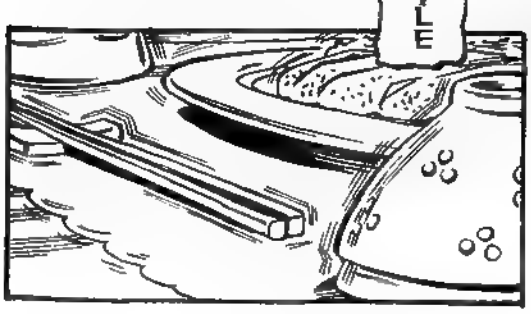
CHEW

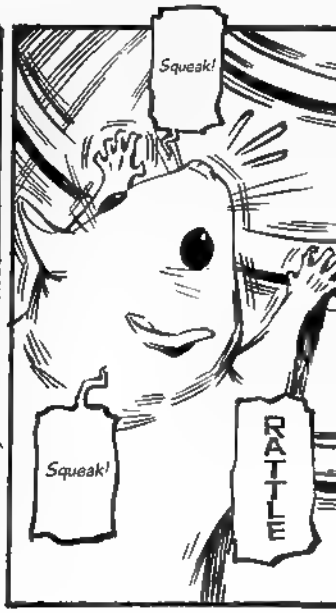


RATTLE
RATTLE

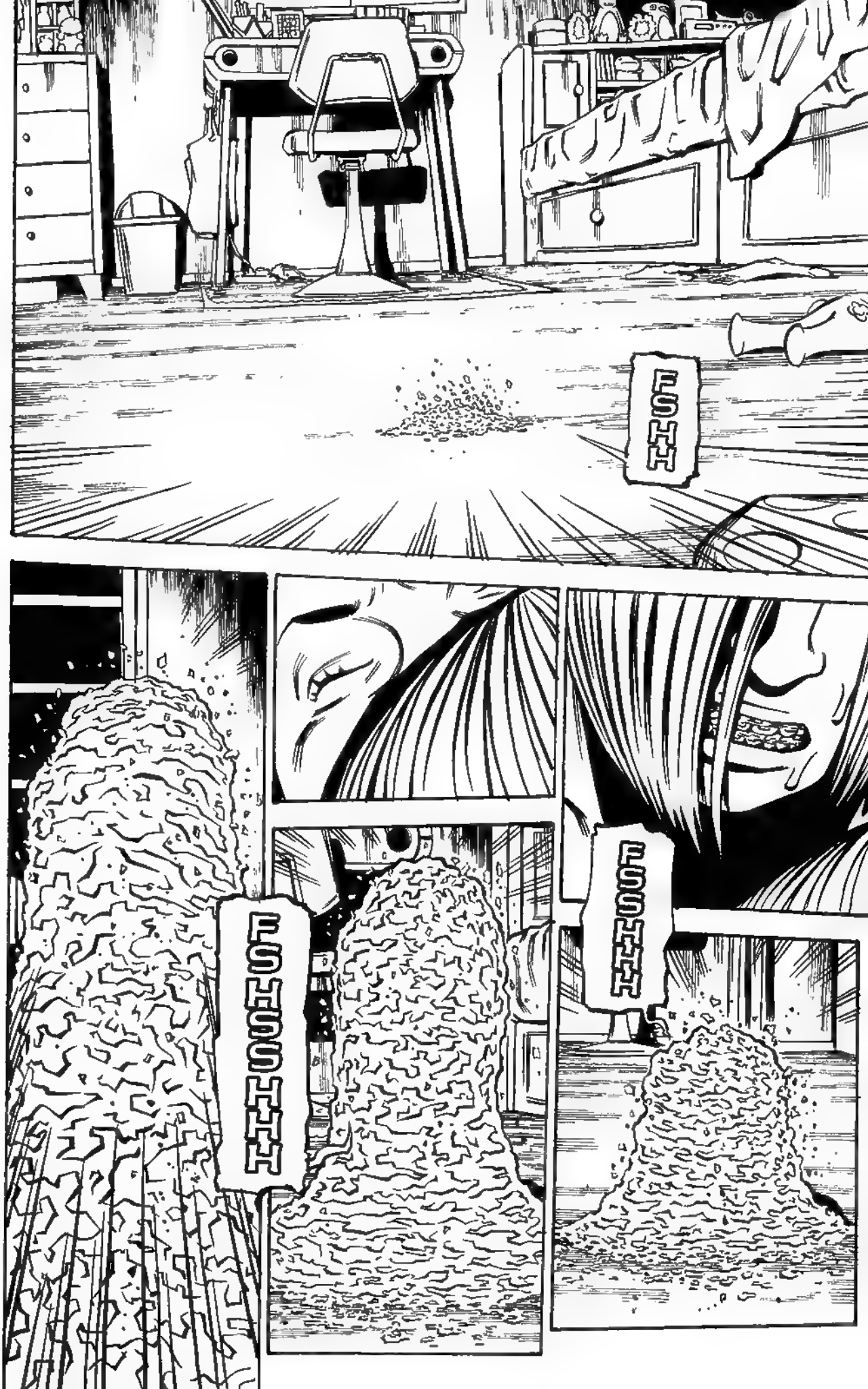

Squeak
RATTLE
Squeak
RATTLE


Squeak
Squeak
POP
RATTLE

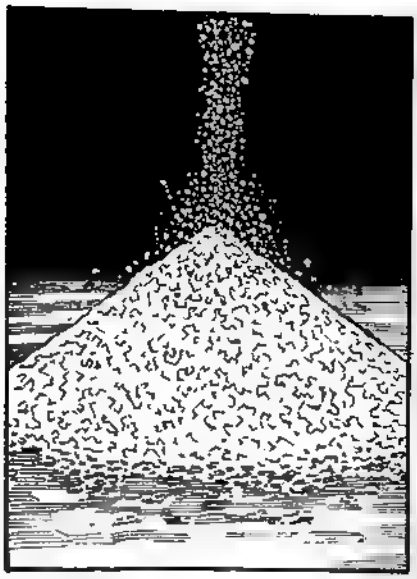
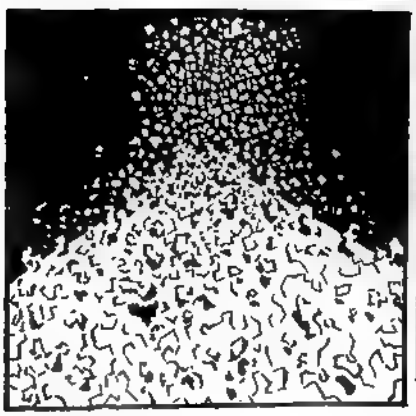
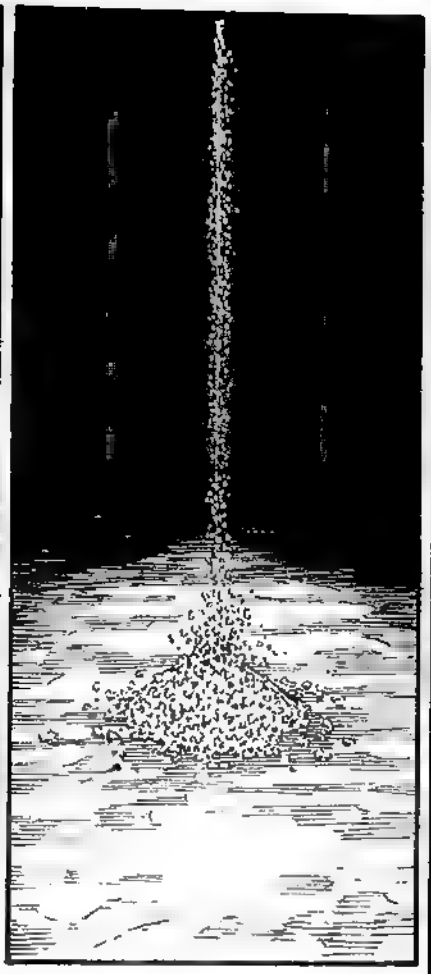
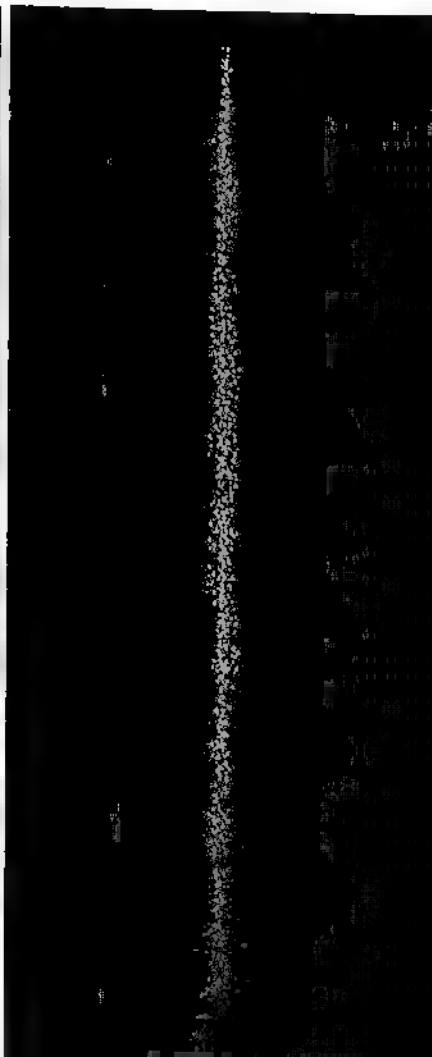



Squeak!
Squeak!
RATTLE

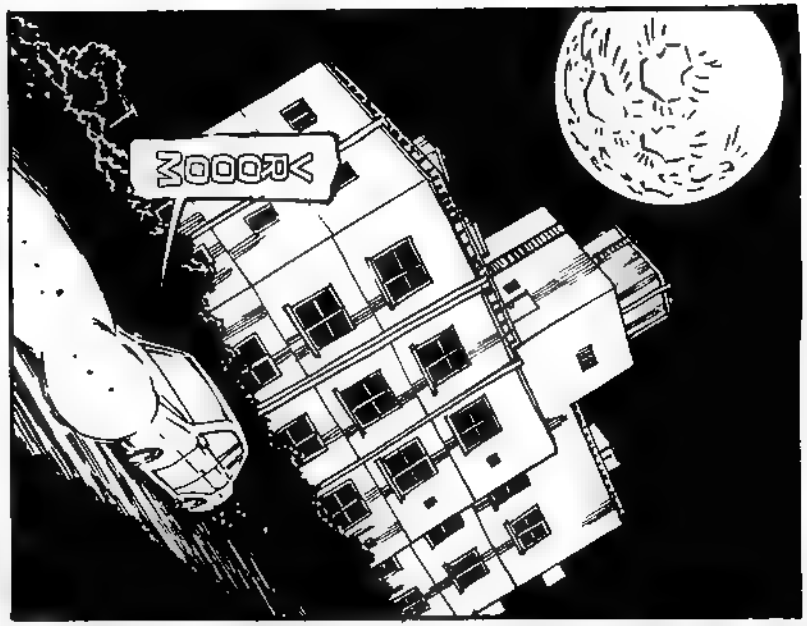
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

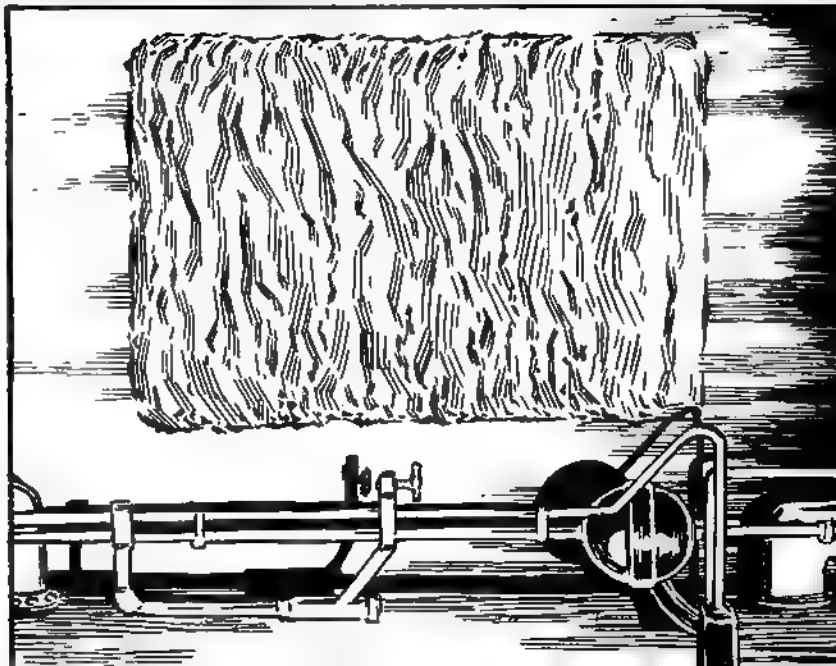

FSHH
FSHH
FSHSHH
FSHSHSHH

Squeak!
ZNZ
ZNZNZNZNZ

ZZZZOOO...
...ロロロロロロロ


ZOOOロ



VRRROOOO...
OOOOOOMMMM...

SOIL[ソイル] THE END

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Edited by Kennit

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B.Q.
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漫画家にイラストレーター、そして映画監督と、常にジャンルを越境しながらマッドでセクシーな作品を生み出し続け、多くのアーティストやクリエーターから熱い賞賛を浴びる鬼才・カネコアツシが、その才能を世にまき散らした超クレイジー読切シリーズ、発表順に収録した"ORIGINAL EDITION"として、ハンディーでラブリーな待望の文庫化!(全2巻)